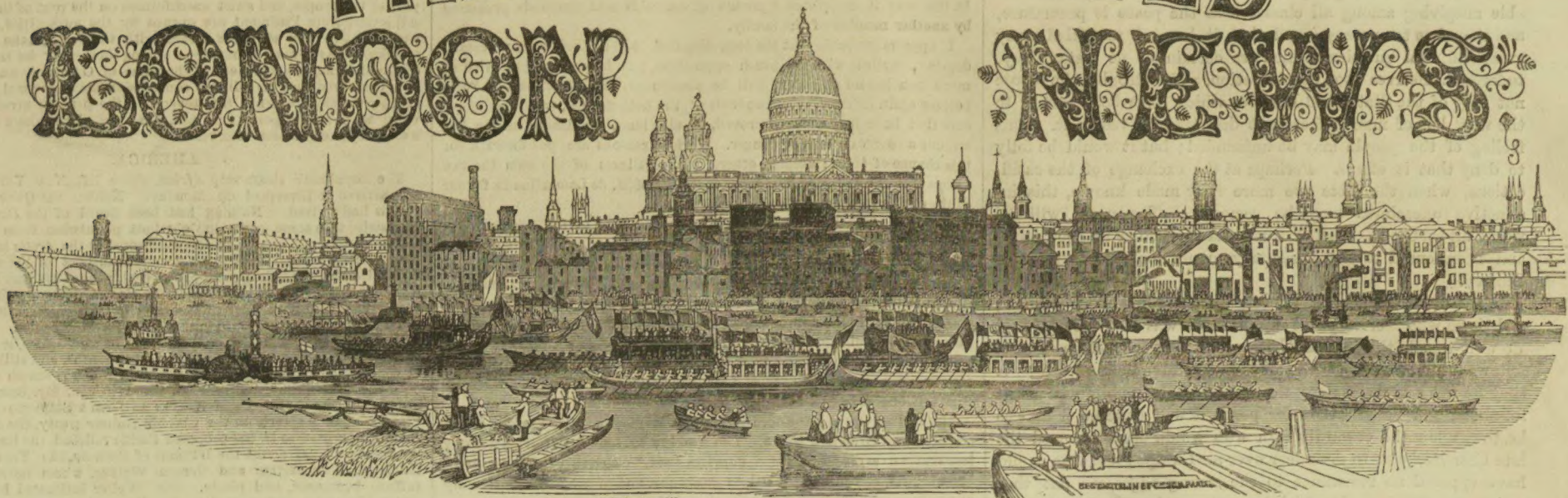


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1856.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

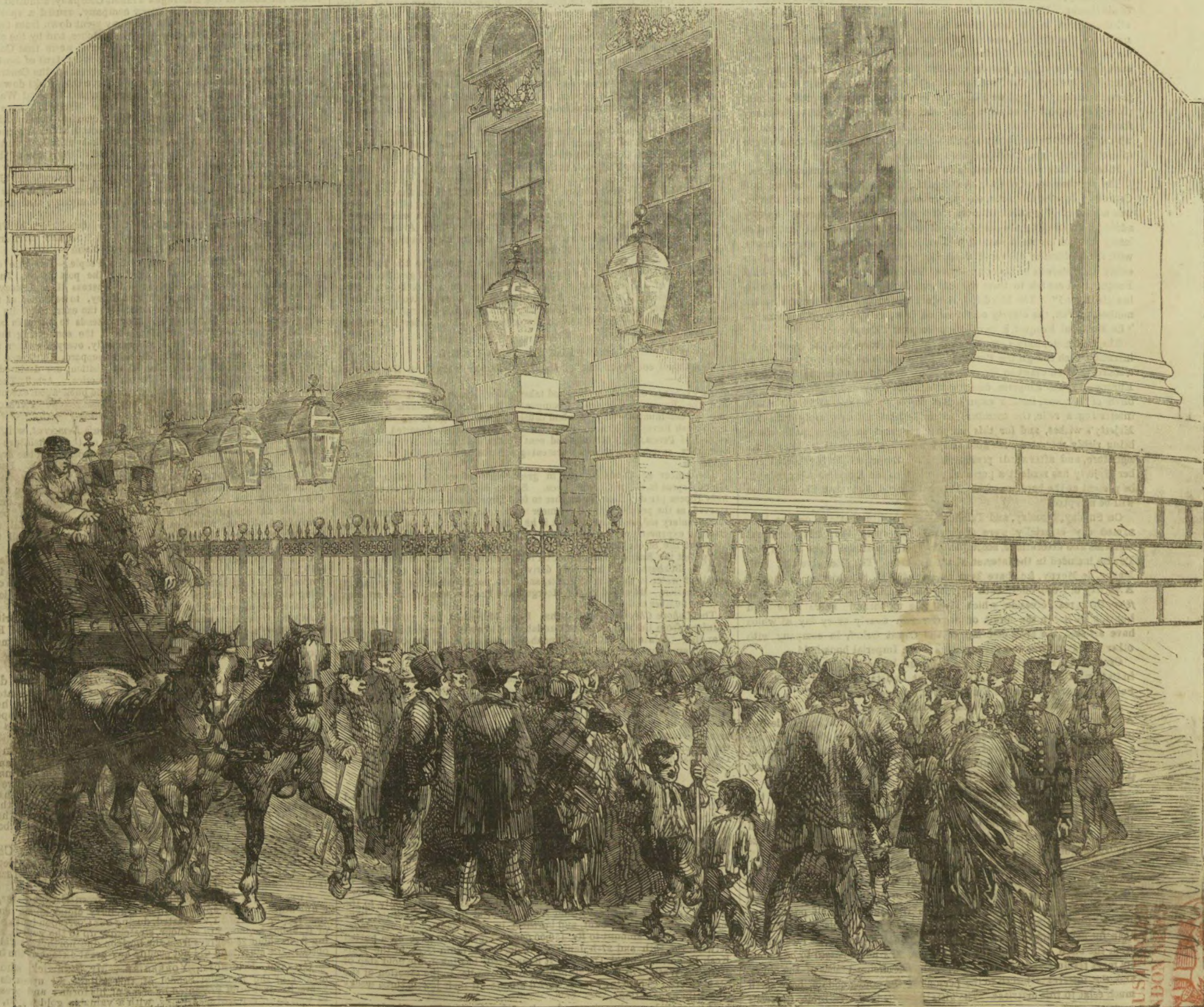
THE PEACE.

THE Peace which has been concluded, and announced, by the thunder of cannon and the ringing of joy-bells, to the multitudes of London and Paris, and with various forms of rejoicings to all the minor cities, towns, and villages of Europe, may or may not prove satisfactory to the British nation. Until its terms are more positively known, it is fitting that it should be considered worthy of the great Powers whose plenipotentiaries have signed it. We on our part shall certainly not join the ranks of those who have already begun to denounce it. There is but one greater national evil than war, and that is the callousness which would rather endure a present oppression than resist it. The English are not the people to be afflicted with so foul and fatal a disease as such apathy;—as, by their willingness to incur all the risks and penalties of a state of warfare in a cause which they believe to be rightful, they have testified a thousand times, and at no time more emphatically than in their collision with Russia.

Under its most favourable aspect, war is a calamity that may often be inevitable, but is never other than deplorable; and, when it has been honourably brought to a close, every good man must rejoice at its cessation.

The British Government has as yet said but little to enlighten the public mind on the subject of the terms that have been made with or imposed upon Russia. Lord Palmerston, in the midst of a desultory conversation on the palings and footpaths of Hyde-park, and on the pettiest details of the national expenditure, managed to tell the assembled representatives of the people that he had nothing to add to the information already conveyed through the newspapers; and that nothing more would be, or ought to be, stated until after the exchange of the ratifications, in three weeks or a month, from the signature of the treaty. The Emperor of the French has been a little, but very little, more explicit; and has expressed to the Plenipotentiaries who announced to him the result of their labours, that the Peace was one which carried with it no humiliation to Russia, and

which did not compromise the dignity or the independence of any one; that it was, in fact, "a Peace such as a great nation might propose or accept without degradation; that it had, therefore, all the elements of solidity and durability; and that this favourable result was owing in a great measure to the conciliatory spirit and moderation which marked the policy of England." The world will know hereafter the exact meaning of the Emperor's words. It will learn to what extent England was conciliatory, whether the moderation of her Government was wise or unwise—well or ill founded—and whether the confidence of her statesmen partook of credulity, and their generosity to the vanquished, of culpable indifference to the rights of other nations. Yet whilst we are prepared to hope and to believe that the peace is worthy of the high eulogium of Napoleon III., and of the satisfaction which the diplomatists at Paris have felt and expressed in their great handiwork, we should not honestly perform our part as historians, if we did not place upon record that the people of Great Britain have not as yet received the



READING THE NEWS OF THE PEACE, AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—(SEE PAGE 339.)



announcement with any extraordinary degree of satisfaction. So far from there being any enthusiasm, there has been considerable misgiving among all classes that the peace is premature, and therefore temporary; and that it has left unsettled many great and vital questions which are certain, at no distant day, to force themselves upon consideration, and to trouble the repose not only of the States and Empires which have been parties to the war, but of many others not directly involved in it. This feeling of the people may be unfounded; but it would be folly to deny that it exists. Perhaps at the exchange of the ratifications, when the facts are more fully made known, this instinctive uneasiness may be removed. The peace will be worth all that it has cost, if Russia have yielded in good faith, and been cured of her hereditary mania for the conquest of Turkey.

In the mean time there is peace upon the lips of all Europe; and those who "cried peace when there was no peace" would do well to ask themselves whether, if their counsels had been followed, we should not at this moment have been at war? If they do not ask themselves the question the public will ask it for them. In its gratitude for peace it will have no thanks to bestow upon the cowardly men who would have allowed the late Czar Nicholas to domineer over all Europe; and who would have opposed no resistance to the strong aggressor but that resistance of fair words which he contemned, and of that moral force which he despised, if it thwarted his inclinations or impeded his ambition.

The more stable and honourable the peace which has resulted from the Conferences, the greater will be the gratitude of the nations to the brave men who fought for it with their strong right hands, who cemented it with their blood, and who wrested it at the cannon's mouth and at the bayonet's point from the unwilling grasp of a semi-barbarous and utterly selfish Power. To our Army and our Navy, and to the brave people who cheerfully paid the cost—and not to peacemongers—do we owe the peace which we enjoy. That it may be worthy of the sacrifices made to obtain it must be the wish of every honest Englishman.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Nothing but rejoicings are, as may be supposed, the order of the day; fêtes and illuminations succeed without intermission; on Tuesday took place the most magnificent review that has been seen for many a day in this country, where military spectacles are so much in the habits and tastes of all classes. Upwards of 150,000 men took part in this review; besides all the troops in garrison in Paris, nearly all those within some days' march of the capital were called upon to attend, and all the villages, as far as the department of Seine and Oise, were disposed so as to receive the arrivals, during at least four days. A brilliant sunshine, a cloudless sky, and a temperature greatly softened from the rigour of the keen east winds, that prevailed nearly all last month, gave every thing that was requisite to complete the splendour and effect of the spectacle, which afforded to the many foreigners present on the occasion a good idea of the resources of a nation which, without having had breathing-time allowed it from the termination of such a campaign, could produce a similar spectacle.

It is said that a great camp is to be established at Châlons-sur-Marne. The announcement of their new dignities to the Marshals Bosquet and Canrobert by the Emperor, on the occasion of a dinner at the Tuilleries, was a subject of general interest and emotion. His Imperial Majesty added to the effect by the association of the act with the event that had so lately fulfilled his most earnest desires, by proclaiming the appointments, with the addition of the most flattering recommendation to them of the safety and interests of his son:—"Au Maréchal Canrobert! Au Maréchal Bosquet! I confide to their valiant swords the child which Providence has given me!" The Maréchal Bosquet announced by telegraph to his mother, at Pau, the dignity conferred on him, in the following terms:—"Le Maréchal Bosquet à sa mère; priez pour l'Empereur!"

The Plenipotentiaries employed in the Conferences had, it appears, the intention each to sign the Peace with a pen which he purposed keeping as a souvenir of an event so important in his own life, and in the history of Europe; but the Empress, desiring to connect this great occasion with the birth of her son, having expressed a desire to possess so valuable and interesting a relic, the members naturally hastened to comply with her Majesty's wishes, and for this purpose prepared an eagle's quill which, being richly mounted with gold and jewels, was employed by all for the signature, and afterwards presented to the Empress. It is reported that her Majesty has made it a personal request to the Emperor Alexander to be present at the baptism of the Prince Imperial, and that the invitation will be accepted.

On Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday Paris was illuminated; on the last-named day especially were displayed everywhere the most brilliant emblems and decorations, accompanied by the national flags of all the Powers included in the interest of the occasion. The fêtes given by MM. Magne, de Morny, &c., have been as splendid as the occasion demanded. A variety of fresh ones, both private and official, are in preparation to follow the great occasion which gives rise to them. There have been hunting parties in the forest of St. Germain nearly every day, at which have assisted the aides-de-camp of the Count Orloff, in company with other foreign officers and the members of the Imperial household.

On the 10th inst. will take place the grand ball given by Aali Pacha, in imitation of that of M. de Thouvenot at Constantinople, at which the Sultan appeared: here the Emperor will be present.

Abd-el-Kader has just been named member of the Zoological Society of Acclimation. Having learnt, when at Broussa, that the society desired to introduce a number of Angora goats into France, the Emir purchased a flock, which he presented to it. The study of zoology is one in which he has shown much interest, and some treatises on the horse and the camel have emanated from his pen.

Last week took place the sale of the effects of Madame Allan, of the Théâtre Français, consisting of furniture, wardrobe, jewels, &c. Among these properties were several objects of great value and beauty, presented to the eminent actress as testimonials of the admiration her talents excited in Russia.

On Monday took place at the Oratoire, the principal temple of the Reformed Church of France, the marriage of M. André-Cottier with Mlle. de Mentriou. The bridegroom comes of one of the wealthiest and most respectable Protestant families in the country, and is himself possessed of a large fortune; and the bride, who is no less remarkable for her beauty than for her personal worth, is the descendant of an ancient race which, from the birth of Protestantism in France, has never ceased to be among its most resolute and constant bulwarks. The circumstances of the union, and the interest attached to the persons of the young couple, have given much éclat to this marriage. The gifts presented to the bride, in jewels more especially, were extremely magnificent. Among them was a bracelet which displayed, in its first aspect, a certain number of extremely

large pearls, surrounded with diamonds. By a most ingenious mechanism the pearls slid off, and displayed beneath emeralds of equal size and beauty. In this way it completed a *parure* of emeralds and diamonds presented by another member of the family.

It appears probable that the long-disputed, long-desired, long-necessary dog-tax, carried with so much opposition, put into execution with so much trouble and difficulty, will be abandoned, and the streets of Paris become again infested with hundreds of the half-starved, worthless, noisy curs that have for so long proved, at all times, a nuisance, and in hot seasons a source of serious danger. Various reasons are put forward for this change of ideas; among others, the smallness of the sum the tax brings into the Treasury, and a remonstrance of M. de Lamartine in favour of the canine ratepayers.

It is reported that the amount of subscriptions to the new serial of M. de Lamartine is so far from supplying the means necessary to relieve his position, that the illustrious poet and historian entertains the idea of retiring to the United States. One of the causes of his embarrassment is said to lie in the grant of territory accorded him by the Sultan, and since withdrawn by the Ottoman Government, which has proved a source of immense and fruitless expense. We give this merely as a rumour.

The Commission charged to collect the letters of the first Emperor has already disinterred upwards of four thousand, the publication of which will, ere long, take place.

The Italian Opera has closed with great brilliancy, with the last representations of Gris and Mario. The *Ambigu* contents itself with nothing less than an arrangement of "Paradise Lost," effective in certain parts, but unequal, and in many portions grotesque, and of proportions absurdly at variance with the grandeur of such a subject.

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE IN ST. PETERSBURG.

An Imperial manifesto was issued at St. Petersburg on the 1st instant relative to the conclusion of peace. It says that, though the war was not sought by Russia, it had been waged with great energy by the Russian people. The rights of the Christians in the East were assured; thus the object of the war had been attained. Special arrangements had been made to prevent collisions between Turkish and Russian vessels in the Black Sea, and a new line of frontier in Bessarabia had been conceded, "to avoid future collision."

The accounts from Warsaw, of the 26th ult., mention that the greatest distress exists there among the poorer classes. The Emperor had been under the necessity, from official reports sent to him, to order funds from the Imperial treasury to be applied for the immediate relief of the existing distress.

The navigable Finster Canal, which has been in course of construction for many years, and is executed for account of the Russian Government, is at length completed, and has just been opened. This canal promises to be of great importance for the internal commerce of Russia, as it allows of uninterrupted communication between the Bug and Dnieper. The blockade of the Russian ports has had the effect of proving the value of this internal communication, by means of which we have already received from the south of Russia and through this canal and the river Vistula 10,000 quarters of the finest linseed, 12,000 cwt. of tallow, and 15,000 cwt. of hemp, a great part of which has been already shipped to England. For the greater facilitation of this trade, a service of steam-tugs is being organised by the Russian Government, which will be completed in the course of this summer.

THE ALLIES IN THE EAST.

The accounts from the Crimea by the *Borysthène* steam-packet, which arrived at Marseilles on Wednesday, say that the sanitary state of the army continued to improve. General Della Marmora arrived at Balaklava on the 16th ult. Letters from Eupatoria of the 16th ult. mention that a review of the Allied troops had just taken place. Several wrecks are mentioned as having occurred at Kustendjeh. Accounts from Kertch, of the 17th, state that the expedition which had been in contemplation against the Spit of Arabat was postponed until the issue of the negotiations at Paris should be known. Letters from the Danubian Principalities state that the Russians had allowed 163 vessels which had been detained in the Danube to leave.

The *Sinai*, which brought the previous mail from Constantinople, left at Tenedos several French line-of-battle ships and frigates, waiting for a fair wind to proceed on their voyage to Constantinople. Two French steam-corvettes, the *Tisiphone* and *Eumenide*, were preparing to leave Gallipoli to take them in tow. A grand fête was to be given at the residence of the French Consul at Smyrna, on the 23rd, on the occasion of the birth of the Prince Imperial, at which the Pacha and all the foreign consular agents were to be present. The news of the birth was welcomed at Malta by a salvo of 101 guns from the screw-liner *Prince Jerome*, which was afterwards taken up by the forts and the ships in the roadstead. In the evening the town was illuminated.

In Constantinople, the dates from which come down to the 25th ult., the news of the birth of an Imperial Prince had caused great rejoicing. The whole of the diplomatic corps were present at a "Te Deum" sung on the occasion. On the evening of the day the news arrived there was a grand dinner at the French Embassy, at which Lord Stratford de Redcliffe delivered a speech suitable to the occasion. The quarter of Pera was illuminated at night.

RUSSIA, PERSIA, AND CABUL.

The Cabul correspondent of the *Delhi Gazette* writes, on the 29th of January:—

An exchange of Ambassadors had taken place between the King of Persia and the Emperor of Russia, accompanied by valuable presents and most friendly communications. This had caused a great change in the influence of the British Envoy in Teheran, and who, on being slighted, departed from the capital of Persia. His Majesty had sent a large park of artillery to Busheer, and other armaments, to show a threatening attitude to the English on the side of India.

The Ameer at Candahar was in great want of money, which he had already spent in support of his force. Sirdar Sooltan Khan receives about forty rupees per day from his brother to feed himself, otherwise he would have starved, as the people say. The Ameer looks upon the British Government for the pecuniary aid, and says without it he will be utterly ruined by his increasing expenses since he left Cabul.

One of the Sirdar Mahomed Afzul Khan's servants, while at Balkh, had heard that the Russians had made iron reservoirs in the sandy deserts on the road to Bokhara, and travellers derive great comfort from the plentiful supply of water in those arid deserts, and bless the Russians for their justice and attention. He added that in Hoorgunj the Persians and Russians are seen in great number and influence.

The *Lahore Chronicle* states that Dost Mahomed has gained golden opinions from the merchants of Candahar by lowering the duties on merchandise. A late arrival from Candahar reports that the Dost was about to send an army of 24,000 men for the recapture of Herat.

The *Sindian* learns from a correspondent at Muscat that:—

The departure of the British Embassy from the Persian Court took place in consequence of the intrigues and instigations of the Russian Government, which, as I learn, has offered to restore to the Persians all those provinces which it had usurped during the reign of the father of the present Shah. Moreover, as an additional bribe, the Russians had offered to repay the seven crores of tomans which were taken possession of at the same period. Under the influence of these bribes, the line of conduct was pursued by the Iranian Court that has led to the present unfortunate fracas.

THE ANNEXATION OF OUDE.

The arrangements for the administration of the affairs of Oude proceed as tranquilly and peaceably as if the kingdom annexed a fortnight since had been one of the old provinces of the empire, undergoing a slight transformation in its organisation. The selections of the new officials are said to be judicious, but in many cases not quite such as were expected. The *Calcutta Citizen* states that the number of soldiers whose arrears have to be paid up amount to 70,000, and the sum due to Rs. 48,00,000. The sum found in the various treasuries of the Oude kingdom amount to Rs. 28,00,000, which, according to the balances as entered in the treasurer's books, shows a defalcation of Rs. 39,00,000. This alludes only to the current year. It is suspected that the King, Minister, and servants, have made away with the amount, and buried it in secret vaults. A very large treasure, said to amount to Rs. 150,00,000, is reported to have been buried between the 19th and 27th January, under some plum-trees in the Dilli-Koah Palace. General Outram, it is asserted, has taken the bold step of arresting Wajid Ali Shah Padshahi as an accomplice in the sanction of the State frauds. The King's ladies buried almost all their jewels three weeks before the annexation.

The Santhals continue to wander about in the jungles, still alarming the villagers, but abstaining from deeds of violence; and it will probably take some time before they finally settle down.

MARTIAL LAW IN PARMA.

This small State still continues in the same condition of alarm on the part of the people, and strict watchfulness on the part of the Government. All letters from Piedmont are opened by the authorities, and are afterwards sent to their addresses closed with the seal of the military commandant. Arrests still continue; among them may be mentioned those of Count Biardi, a merchant of the name of Gambaro, and Dr. Tebaldi. It is rumoured that the military commission has discovered a general plot against the Government; that several of the persons arrested were provided with forged passports; and that the place where such passports were prepared has been discovered.

AMERICA.

The Royal mail steam-ship *Africa*, which left New York on the 10th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday. Neither the *Quaker City* nor the *Persia* had arrived. Nothing had been heard of the *Pacific*. Captain Harlestein, who some weeks ago obtained permission from the American Government to go out in the naval propeller the *Arctic* in search of the *Pacific*, made a short cruise over a certain district of the sea, and, touching at Halifax for a larger supply of coal, pushed his way into the region where he thought it most probable the *Pacific* might be found. He was amply furnished with all the means he required, and his experience in the Polar regions had specially qualified him for this cruise. His ship was built for such a service. Rigged as a brig, he said before he started that he could probably remain at sea at least two months, and still retain a stock of coal sufficient to bring him to the coast after the search was over.

In the United States' Senate, on the 17th ult., Mr. Douglas reported a bill authorising the people of Kansas to form a State Government. Mr. Clayton made a speech on the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the course of Great Britain in regard to it, the proposed Pacific railroad, the importance of an interoceanic canal across the Isthmus of Panama, the Transit Company's difficulty, filibustering, and General Walker, whom he stigmatised as a ruffian, buccaneer, and pirate. Mr. Weller intimated his intention of giving his views with regard to the General's character on some future occasion.

A Washington correspondent states, upon good authority, that Mr. Crampton, the British Minister, will positively be recalled. It was intimated that he had incurred the censure of his Government by his course in the enlistment affair.

A spirited meeting, attended by over 200 British residents of New York, was held on the 18th ult., at the Astor House, to memorialise the Queen of England for the unconditional pardon of John Frost—who, it will be remembered, was transported, in connection with others, by the English Government, in 1840, for life, for having espoused and advocated the cause of the English Chartists, and was conditionally pardoned in 1854. Mr. Frost was present, and gave a very interesting account of his trial at a Court of Special Commission held at Monmouth, and the sufferings and privations to which he was subjected at Van Diemen's Land during his banishment. Mr. Frost's reception by the meeting was warm and enthusiastic. A memorial urging upon the English Government his full pardon was presented, and received the signatures of all present. Speeches ensued by several in attendance.

A fearful accident occurred on the Delaware river on the 15th ult. One of the Camden and Philadelphia ferry-boats took fire when in the middle of the stream; the flames spread with great rapidity, the boat became unmanageable, the passengers, about 100 in number, panic-stricken, leaped into the water to escape a terrible death by burning. Many of them were picked up, but some thirty were drowned. Up to four o'clock on the 18th nineteen of the bodies of the victims had been recovered. It is conceded that this awful sacrifice of human life is attributable to the fact that the ferry-boat was entirely destitute of small boats and life-preservers; and it appears, moreover, that the laws of the United States do not require such vessels to carry them.

A report by telegraph from New Orleans, that General Walker had seized the boats of the Nicaragua Transit Company, annulled their charter, and granted a new charter to a new company, caused a special panic on 'Change, and the stock of that company went down from twenty-two to eighteen. It was confirmed by other despatches, and by the arrival of the *Northern Light* steamer, with the additional news that Costa Rica had refused to receive the envoy, and that there were signs of hostility against the government of General Walker in several of the Central American States. This confirmation of the news drove the Stocks down to thirteen yesterday. It was the common impression that General Walker had resorted to some *coup d'état* that would be likely to prove fatal to the prosperity of the Transit Company, that communicates with the Pacific via Nicaragua; and that the same course would have a tendency to inflame popular opinion against him, and most likely induce the intervention of United States war-vessels for the protection of the rights of their citizens.

Commodore Vanderbilt notifies to the American public that the steamers of the Accessory Transit Company are withdrawn until the United States' Government can inquire into the late proceedings of the Nicaraguan authorities in seizing the property of the company, and annulling their charter.

In our publication of the 22nd ult. we stated that the Filibuster Government of Nicaragua had annexed the Mosquito territory. The following is the decree by which it makes its claim:—

The Supreme Executive Power to the People.—The title of Nicaragua to the territory called Mosquito, including the port of San Juan del Norte, being notorious and incontestable; and whereas H. L. Kenney pretends, in virtue of a purchase from Sheppard and Haley, to be owner of the said territories, the property of this Republic;—in the exercise of its faculties decrees—the rights which the said Kenney pretends to claim in and upon the said territory are null, void, and of no effect, the same being the property of the Republic of Nicaragua; and, consequently, every alienation made by the said Kenney is also void. Art. 2. The said Sheppard, Haley, and Kenney, and all other persons claiming this unlawful acquisition, are declared guilty of an attempt against the integrity of Central America. Art. 3. The Minister of Relations and the Interior is charged with the publication, execution, and fulfilment of this decree.

Granada, Feb. 8, 1856.

PATRICIO RIVAS.

The Kansas correspondent of the *St. Louis Democrat*, writing from Topeka, March 8th, says that, in joint session of the Legislature on that day, Governor Reeder was elected United States' Senator on the first ballot (six years), and General Lane on the second (three years). Each candidate received 38 votes—56 members being present.

The steamer *Columbus* had made a trip from Panama to several of the Central American States, in order to make arrangements, on the part of the railroad company, for a communication by steam between New Granada and those republics. The mission was successful, and a good feeling was evinced towards the deputation on board in all the ports at which the vessel touched.

On the return of the *Columbus* she reported from Guatemala that General Carrera had returned to the capital after a tour in the interior provinces. The Legislative Assembly had dissolved, and the carnival was being observed. A general uneasiness existed in the public mind with regard to the prospect of a Walker-Rivas invasion.

Advices from Havannah of the 10th ult. state that the British ship-of-war *Powerful* had arrived with orders to unite there all the English and French naval forces in the Mexican Gulf, and to start immediately for Nicaragua.

TENANT-LEAGUE AGITATION.—The *Tablet*, nothing daunted by the displeasure of Dr. Cullen, announces that the long-threatened grand provincial meeting to petition for tenant-right will be held on the 9th instant. A mighty phalanx of priests is pledged to appear on the platform. If the meeting succeed, there will be a series of similar meetings.

VIOLATION OF AN ANCIENT SEPULCHRE.—On the farm of Easter Gelford, on the Cawdor estate, there was lately an ancient cairn or tumulus of stones raised over the graves of some aboriginal warriors. The cairn was 150 to 180 feet in circumference. In the centre were stone coffins containing bones and clay urns. We regret to say that, in order to turn the place to some account for agricultural purposes, the whole of the stones have been removed, the boulders surrounding them blasted with gunpowder, and the ashes of the dead scattered like bonedust on the field!—*Forbes Gazette*.

SENTENCE ON A GOVERNMENT COLLECTOR.—At Chester, on Monday last, John Moah, receiver of inland revenue, convicted at last of embezzling £5000, the property of the Crown, was sentenced to transportation to fourteen years.

AURORA.—A Correspondent, writing from Bridgewater, describes a fine aurora, which appeared in a dark, hazy cloud about ten o'clock in the evening of April 1, and lasted, during our Correspondent's observation of it, about a quarter of an hour, stretching up to the zenith, and springing from about 25 degrees from the horizon due north. It did not at all obscure the stars, and did not occupy any great extent of the heavens.

GILLING, RICHMOND, YORKSHIRE.—Mr. Stanwick, who has been master of the National School of this village for upwards of fifteen years, has just been presented by some of his former and present pupils, as well as by some of his friends, with a valuable gold watch, as a mark of their high regard for Mr. Stanwick's long and faithful services, as described in a Latin inscription. The watch was furnished by Mr. Tarell, of Newcastle.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

LORD PALMERSTON'S announcement, on the reassembling of the House of Commons on Monday, that nothing would be known upon the subject of the Treaty of Paris, except that peace had been made, of course keeps both friendly and factious natures dumb for the present. He pronounced every high compliment upon the mode in which Lord Clarendon and Lord Cowley had performed their work, and declared his conviction that the treaty would be both satisfactory and efficacious. A Premier could hardly say less. A Paris rumour goes that the first-mentioned nobleman displayed ill-temper during the whole of the Conference; but those who sanguinely augur from this that Lord Clarendon resolutely set himself against the claims of Russia, and the insidiousness of her "friends in council," should remember that, though the alleged manifestation may have been rigid patriotism, it may also have been the result of the late horrible east winds. However, we have nothing more substantial to speculate upon. One thing is certain—namely, that people who talk about illuminations are in a most unjustifiable and ridiculous hurry. There is no particular reason for lighting up at all; but at least let us remain quiet until we hear what has been done. The authorities could wait long enough when Sebastopol fell, and would order no thanksgiving on the faith of the telegraph, nor until a regular messenger arrived with the despatch. Let us imitate their forbearance—perhaps we shall save gas and lamp-glass.

Sir George Grey has introduced a bill for the reform of the Corporation of the City of London. In some vaudeville, Mr. Charles Mathews, who finds a husband in his way, declares he will kill him, but, in answer to the wife's remonstrances, promises to kill him so pleasantly, that he won't mind it—will rather like it than not. This is certainly the mode in which Sir George Grey kills the Corporation. The bill is framed, he says, in a spirit of "sincere respect" for the institution. The governing body is to be left as at present, but the number of wards is to be reduced, the electoral numbers are to be regulated, and the Council is to consist of 96 members instead of 232. Aldermen are to be elected for six years instead of for life—their life-peerage to be brought, therefore, more into affinity with the consular honour of their Mayor. The Common Council is to be elected yearly, and any person who is eligible to it is to be eligible as Lord Mayor. The Court of Aldermen is to be abolished, except in regard to its magisterial functions (which are henceforth to be civil only, the criminal jurisdiction being given to stipendiary magistrates), and its duties are to be transferred to the Common Council. The Lord Mayor's and Sheriffs' Courts are to be consolidated, and the Recorder is to be sole Judge in the new Lord Mayor's Court; and the farce of a Mayor and Aldermen in the Central Criminal Court is to be done away. The restrictions on trade within the City and street tolls will be got rid of. The Coal-duties remain as now; and the Conservancy of the Thames is handed to a Government board. The Police system is not to be altered. There is no doubt that the above changes are reforms and improvements; but Colbrand did not fall on his face in Guildhall, nor Brandmore burst asunder, like Bel and the Dragon, when the Home Secretary made his speech. On the contrary, the City members, in the name of the Corporation, promised to discuss the bill dispassionately. The second reading is fixed for Monday fortnight. In further reference to the Parliamentary proceedings of the week, it is worth noting that on Wednesday the House of Commons, though desirous of proceeding to a decision on the Factory Machinery Bill, was actually prevented from doing so by a rule of its own making, and which even the Speaker could not relax.

The interesting letter from a correspondent which we inserted last week has shown how earnestly the women of England have striven to do their part of the duty which war brings upon a nation. It will be no less interesting to add that the women of the Colonies have not been wanting in the same good work. Their sympathy with the mother country in her need has been most touching, and shows how strong are the ties which bind the Anglo-Saxon race together amid such widely different circumstances. Two proofs of this are not so well known as they deserve to be: £1684 sent to her Majesty the Queen by the ladies of Lancaester, Van Diemen's Land, for the use of the soldiers, and paid by her to Miss Nightingale; and £1000, chiefly from the ladies of New Zealand, sent through Mr. Sidney Herbert to Miss Nightingale (at their desire), for the use of the sick and wounded. Through our columns these ladies will perhaps be made aware how kindly their generous sympathy has been felt, not only by those whom it has benefited, but by the nation at large.

Some correspondence has taken place upon the subject of the atrocious system of exporting young females for the purposes of vice; and the Belgian officials, who seek to clear themselves, merely show how completely the traffic is treated as matter of business on the Continent. A lady-writer in the *Times*, whose name (did courtesy permit its recognition when the owner has chosen to be anonymous) would command all respect, has met the appeal which has been made to the women of England to exert themselves for the sake of the victims of this infernal traffic. She asks, "What can we do?" The etiquette of English society supposes a virtuous woman to be ignorant that there are vicious women; and as for a preventive remedy—the dealing with those for whom the latter life—she observes, "the education of your sons is not with us." On both points the writer meets the journalist full front, and upon neither point can we deny that her reply is complete.

Observations of various value have been made upon the execution of the ruffian Bousfield, who was hanged at Newgate on Monday morning. The crime of murder has been so fearfully rampant of late, and its perpetrators, through the folly and weakness of juries, have had so many escapes, that it almost becomes necessary to recall the features of a particular case. This Bousfield, in a jealous rage, murdered his wife in a most barbarous manner, and, as was inferred at the time, and as his subsequent cunning conduct seems to make probable, was induced to add the yet more cruel slaughter of no fewer than three children, in the idea that such wholesale and unprovoked murder would be regarded—in the fashion of the day—as proof of insanity. But, the instincts of human nature were too strong for the success of his horrible stratagem, and he was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. Sentimentalists of various weakness besieged Sir George Grey in his favour, but the Home Secretary was firm, and the murderer was hanged on Monday last, having previously had a brief reprieve, that a popular holiday might not be saddened by a terrible example. It appears that Bousfield had never relinquished his hope to escape; and, after various affectations of lunacy, so transparent that they were at once detected, and discontinued on their uselessness being pointed out, he assumed a sullenness and afterwards a helplessness, with the same view. After one violent stimulation of outrageous frenzy, he affected to be utterly prostrate, and this assumption he preserved as until the final moment. Had not precautions been taken, his death might have been a more painful scene than it was. As the drop fell, he suddenly regained his strength, struggled up to the platform, and sought to support himself by the cord. These efforts—doubtless the genuine results of despair—were, of course, repressed by the officials, and the execution was completed. Comments have been made upon the circumstances, both by the opponents of public executions, who adduce a rational objection to making a spectacle of such events, and would adopt the American system as more decorous and solemn, and by the amiable philanthropists whose sympathies are for the criminal, not his innocent victims, and who would reason with a murderer, and beg him not to do so shocking a thing again, would "serve, instruct, protect, and save him," as the ablest of the "humanity" organs actually avows. We can, however, see nothing in the whole case except a good riddance of an atrocious ruffian; but, if the details suggest any additional precautions against the recurrence of what has rightly, we think, been called "a scene" planned by the criminal, the authorities will doubtless attend to

them. Sir George Grey has since announced that it is not the intention of Government to introduce the practice of private execution, a determination which is to be regretted. The change, however, will eventually be made.

We sincerely trust that when the "financial arrangement" to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer is looking with apprehension, and Mr. Disraeli with satisfaction, shall be proposed, one matter will not be allowed to remain upon its present basis—we allude to the duty on Fire Assurance. This is an impost which, for every reason, should be got rid of as soon as possible; but we regret to say that the newest step taken—not an unjustifiable one under existing circumstances—is in the other direction. To protect our companies against those of the Continent, the latter—whose agencies are established in London—are to be brought under the operation of the English law. Mr. Hankey stated, in the course of the brief discussion, that, while in England only one-third of the property of the public is insured, in France the amount so secured is seven-eighths. Amid the numerous pleas for consideration that will come under the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, we hope that an urgent appeal against this impolitic tax will be made by the commercial public.

MR. DISRAELI, PRUSSIA, AND GERMANY.

[(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)]

SIR,—With wonder and astonishment the world will have perceived in a German paper of last week that the name of Mr. Disraeli, surrounded by those of ten Polish Generals, figures in the pages of the so-called "Black Book." Everybody of course must ask, to what strange circumstance the very man who once in the English Parliament defended the partition of Poland enjoys the honour, along with the martyrs of the holy cause of Polish independence, of being signalled to the surveillance of the dull eye of the police of the German Fatherland. The riddle, however, is easily solved when we look into the Frankfort correspondence of the weekly organ of the leader of the Conservative party. In this correspondence, in last week's number of that paper, we find the clue to the great Asiatic mystery. In that correspondence (which, by-the-by, may as well have been written in the Strand at London, as at Frankfort) Mr. Disraeli gets the faded laurels of the old German Gotha party flung round his head. The same small party, which, by their unhappy blunders and their doctrinarism, ruined the revolution of 1848, is, as it seems, used there for the purpose of helping Mr. Disraeli into office again, and vice versa, as it seems. Though it originally is no concern of ours to criticise English politicians, only as far as their politics exercise an influence on those of Germany they can become an object of our criticism. If we may believe the Frankfort correspondence of the *Press* there was scarcely anything wanting in Germany in order to complete the triumphal impression which Mr. Disraeli's speech, according to the statement of that paper, has created there, but triumphal arches, illuminations, gun-firing, and public dinners. You may get a faint, but only a faint, idea of the excessive raptures into which German patriotism was thrown by those remarkable words of Mr. Disraeli's, "*Prussia is almost Germany*," when you imagine that those words were taken by the German public as an acknowledgment of German unity as a fact.

Has the German police, in a prophetic spirit, seen the spectre of the speech of that new and strange defender of German unity before it was uttered? The German police, ever since 1848, has been imbued with a somewhat stupid hatred against the so-called Professoren or Gotha party. It had the somewhat confused notion that those pedantic worthies of German University learning, the ideologists of a constitutionalism which the Frankfort Diet and its princely bayonets never suffered to become a living fact—the old martyrs of folio and quarto learning—were the very originators of revolution in Germany—the "Girondins," as they are called in the above-mentioned "Black Book" of our native country. The German police, according to its usual dullness, has, of course, greatly overrated the importance of these men—a fact which now is again repeated in the *Press*.

Depend upon it, Sir, and allow me to tell it the world by means of your widely-circulated paper, that this very Gotha party knows nothing of the true feeling of Germany; nay, events have proved that it even does not know where the true heart of Germany beats. Professor Gerwinus, who has now turned away from his party, was the first who in the so-called Heidelberg "Professoren-Zeitung" (which died an early death of insufferable tediousness) startled the German people by proclaiming the idea of a Russo-Germanic Empire, called by way of nickname "Minor Germany." We well remember what a strange, bewildering impression the announcement of this idea produced in the heads of the majority of the German people, which, even geographically and statistically, cannot be said to be identical with Prussia. The people of Southern and Eastern Germany, where they like easy living, free manners, good humour, and a glass of Rhine wine, have always rather indulged in a somewhat prejudiced hatred against Prussia; or they at least hated Prussian rule. This hatred never has entirely died out, and as far as it is connected with German particularism and individualism, as opposed to a system of strict national unity and centralisation, appears even as somewhat vulgar and blameable.

But the German people is very excusable in this antipathy. The German people ever since the days of Frederic the Great (the glory of whose victories, however, in the minds of the people atoned in some respect for the perfidious rapacity of his policy), and still more so since those of Frederic Wilhelm II., who, in the treacherous separate Peace of Basel (1795) betrayed the common interests of the German empire—the German people, we say, ever since those days have had an instinctive consciousness that Prussia used to follow interests separate from those of Germany as a whole—that she, in the artificial structure of her State, formed out of so many and partly different elements, represents rather the incarnate egotism of an independent part of Germany than the very heart and soul of that country. The very stock of Prussia, the country beyond the Elbe, is not originally German, but Slavonic; and the most faithful and ever-willing tools of governmental despotism among the Prussian regiments of the line are the so-called "Allpreussen," the natives of the Mark Brandenburg, of Eastern Silesia and Pommern (a province the very name of which denotes Slavonic origin). In those wide plains, stretching towards the Baltic, the traveller will scarcely recognise the well-known character of beautiful Germany—of that beautiful Central Germany where, on the sunny hillside, the vine and the almond-tree grow; where the rich variety of hill and dale, of wood and field, charms the eye of the wondering student and artisan; where the ruined castle tells the tale of Florian Geyer, Götz, Lickingen, and the Peasants' War; where people know the songs of Uhland by heart; where, in the blue waters of the Rhine, the dreamy eye of the poet may still see rolling on the ground the "yellow gold" of the Niebelungen-Lied, which was buried there, together with German liberty and greatness, a good many hundred years ago. You will perhaps object, Sir, that it is just Prussia which is possessed of the greater part of the Rhine-Land. Read the *Cologne Gazette*, Sir, and you will see if the Prussian system is liked by the people of the Rhine-Land.

And lastly, Sir, I may ask, what is Prussia? What does the name signify? As I said already, an artificial State—a mechanism, not an organism; a mechanism which has been created by the spirit and the strong hand of some clever military despots; a mechanism the parts of which can so little withstand external or internal shocks that the entire fabric has ever been on the verge of falling to pieces when a Napoleon or a revolution (and in the minds of the Junker party both words are synonymous) thundered at the gates of the kingdom.

When the fabric of that State, which actually "requires slavery of the press and the most revolting kind of Protestant orthodoxy," mixed up with a decided political leaning towards Russia, as conditions of its existence; when, we say, the fabric of that State was artificially created by some strong rulers, who were not Prussians, but Swabians by birth, it was saved by a statesman who himself was no native of Prussia, but of Central Germany—by the great Minister Von Stein, who wrote to one of his friends:—"I am rather sorry that your Excellency takes me for a Prussian, and that you represent yourself to me as a Hanoverian. I have but one fatherland—Germany." In this great crisis (it was in the year 1812 that he wrote thus) the dynasties and their interests are quite indifferent to me; they are mere tools!" When German doctrinarism has in later years been able to startle us with the sham project of Prussianising Germany, it was because Stein had first boldly tried to Germanise Prussia. He had to save that country in spite of the King and his camarilla. He unhappily was only able to do so at the cost of allying himself with Russia; and he even, as we read in the popular work, "*Stein und sein Zeitalter*," by Sigismund Stern (Leipzig: Brockhaus, 1855), had to suppose that the central Government of Germany, after the deliverance of the country from the French, should be placed in the hands of the English and of the Russians, rather than in those of the German Princes. Alas for the German dynasties! So little confidence felt the greatest statesman of modern Germany for them! It will not be uninteresting for our readers to know that Stein deemed it necessary, for the safety of Europe, that Italy and Germany should be formed into great masses.

He afterwards had to suffer for the revolutionary act of having saved Prussia. He was repaid with the blackest ingratitude by King Frederic Wilhelm III., and died in disgrace.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant, A GERMAN.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 1, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of Day.	Rain Inches.	Mean Temperature of Wet Bulb.	Evaporation.	Amount of Ozone. (0-10)		Mean amount of Cloud. (0-10)
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					In the Night.	In the Day.	
Mar. 26	29.845	41.0	34.0	37.4	0.000	35.5	34.5	10	7	10.0
" 27	29.890	50.0	30.3	35.9	0.000	32.8	33.3	7	0	1.4
" 28	29.844	45.6	28.3	37.5	0.000	35.8	34.0	7	2	8.8
" 29	30.122	48.0	27.7	35.8	0.000	31.7	32.4	7	6	1.4
" 30	30.169	53.4	22.7	36.6	0.000	33.1	31.2	6	3	0.0
" 31	30.015	59.2	24.6	40.7	0.000	34.7	34.2	3	0	0.0
April 1	29.789	65.8	21.8	47.0	0.000	40.5	41.1	2	1	3.3
Mean	29.953	51.9	28.5	38.7	0.000	34.9	34.5	5.9	2.7	3.6

The range of temperature during the week was 43.1°.

The weather cloudy on the 26th and 28th, on other days scarcely a cloud. No rain fell; sharp frosts occurred every morning. Zodiacal light brilliant on the 27th, and visible on 29th and 30th.

The direction of the wind was—on 26th, E.N.E. becoming E. at 8h. a.m., and again E.N.E. at 6h. p.m.; becoming N.E. on 27th at 3h. a.m., again E.N.E. at 7h. a.m., N.E. at 6h. p.m., N.N.E. at 11h. p.m.; becoming N.N.W. on 28th, at 7h. 45m. a.m., N. at 8h. a.m., N.N.E. at 9h. a.m., N.E. at 9h. a.m., E.N.E. at 7h. p.m., E. at 10h. p.m.; E.N.E. on the 29th at 2h. 45m. a.m., E. at 7h. a.m., E.S.E. at 7h. 45m. a.m., E. by S. at 11h. a.m., E. at 2h. p.m., E. by N. at 3h. p.m., E.N.E. at 7h. p.m. On the 30th, at 2h. a.m., the wind veered through the N. to N.N.W., becoming N.W. at 2h. a.m.; a further change occurred at 10h. a.m., the wind passed through the W. to S. by W., and until 5h. p.m., constantly changed its direction between S.S.W. and S.S.E., at 5h. a.m. became S.; in which quarter it remained until 5h. p.m. on the 31st, when it became S. by E., 7h. p.m. S.S.E., 8h. p.m. S.E. by E.; becoming E. on the 1st of April at 2h. a.m., S.E. at 9h. a.m., S.S.E. at 10h. a.m., S.E. at 2h. p.m., E.S.E. at 3h. p.m., in which quarter it remained.

The Chiff-Chaff arrived on the 1st of April (the first summer bird).

This has been a remarkable week, especially as regards temperature and the great dryness of the air.

The following remarks are appended from observations at the Baeston Observatory:—

On the 30th, temperature on grass as low as 16.2°; and on 31st, 17.4°. On the 1st, the temperature in shade rose to 64.1°; and in sunshine to 76.3°.

On 30th at 5h. p.m. dry bulb, 49°; wet bulb, 40°; temp. of dew-point, 35.5°; hygrom., 49.

31st at 3h. p.m. " 57 " 45 " " 34 " 42.

" at 5 p.m. " 59 " 47 " " 36.3 " 43.

1st at 2 p.m. " 63 " 53 " " 44.5 " 51.

(Complete saturation of hygrometer 100).

E. J. LOWE.

THE NEW JUDGE OF THE COMMON PLEAS IN IRELAND.—Mr. Keogh was appointed on Wednesday last as the successor of Mr. Justice Torrens on the Irish Bench. He is the youngest Judge that was ever appointed in that country, being as yet under thirty-nine years of age. He entered Parliament in 1847; and, although unsupported by aristocratic connections, he has overcome obstacles that would have conquered most men in gaining his present elevated position. Whatever political enemies he has had, it is certain that no man in his time and in his sphere has made more personal friends than Mr. Keogh.

RIPLEY NEW NATIONAL SCHOOLS.—Another delightful meeting between the employers and the employed took place on Friday evening, the 28th ult., at Ripley, in Derbyshire, on the occasion of the opening of the new National Schools. The firm of the Butterley Ironworks, having contributed very largely to the building of the schools, as being especially intended for their people, invited a considerable number of their leading workpeople and clerks to a tea-meeting; Mr. Francis Wright, of Osaston Manor, the chief partner in the Butterley Company, took the chair. The meeting was densely crowded, and formed, with the tastefully-decorated rooms, an imposing spectacle.

THE CONVICT THOROGOOD.—On Sunday the governor of the County Gaol, Springfield, received an official intimation from the Home Office that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to "extend her royal mercy" to James Thorogood, convicted at our late azzies of being accessory to the murder of Hales, the gamekeeper, "on condition that he be transported beyond the seas for the term of his natural life."—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

THE TIFTERY BANK.—Official notice has been given to the depositors and creditors cautioning them not to part with their interest in the assets to other parties. The *Carlton Post* contains the following statement bearing upon this notice:—"We have ourselves received a communication on this subject from the official manager, who, we are happy to say, seems most anxious not to lessen the available assets by any unnecessary costs, or by encouraging speculators who may be inclined to take advantage of the existing panic. This precaution is the more requisite, as the official manager assures us that the arrangements he is making will enable the bona-fide creditors to prove their debts without being put to its costs. One fact is, however, clear, that even if every shareholder were utterly sold out a large dividend could not be paid. This we are authorised to state; and as we learn from the same authority that the liabilities are above £400,000, and the assets about £30,000, the creditors will have to agree to a compromise, as the readiest and surest mode of realising whatever is available under these circumstances. Litigation should, above all, be avoided, as it can tend to nothing but interminable delay and increased loss to the unfortunate claimants."

CAPTURE OF A GANG OF GAROTTE ROBBERS.—At Bristol, on Tuesday morning, the police arrested three powerful men—Rewins, Lynch, and Lyons—who are supposed to have been the perpetrators of a number of daring robberies which have recently spread dismay through Somersetshire. The other day two farmers were robbed and nearly murdered on returning from market. In another case a young man was attacked, robbed, and thrown into a pond, from which he made an almost miraculous escape. The robbery which led to the arrest of the gang was committed during the night of Monday last, at St. Arno's Vale, near Bristol, on the person of a Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams had been at Bath that day; and, missing the last train from Bristol, he determined on walking thither. After he had gone about a mile on the road the villains ran after him and knocked him down, and one of them seized hold of his cravat and garotted him with it, forcing him back until he was nearly strangled. Another fellow tore his watch and guard-chain from his person, and rifled his pockets of all his money. Then they began to use very rough language towards him, and one of them said something about pistols, when fortunately some persons were heard approaching, and the ruffians decamped. Mr. Williams returned to Bristol, and gave information to the police, who found out that some men had been at an "early-pint" house, and that one of them had been seen in the act of exhibiting a watch to a companion. They were traced from place to place, and found at length at a public-house, and arrested. On their way to the station-house one of them was seen to take the stolen watch from his boot, and throw it away from him. Mr. Williams has identified two of them; and they have all three been remanded.

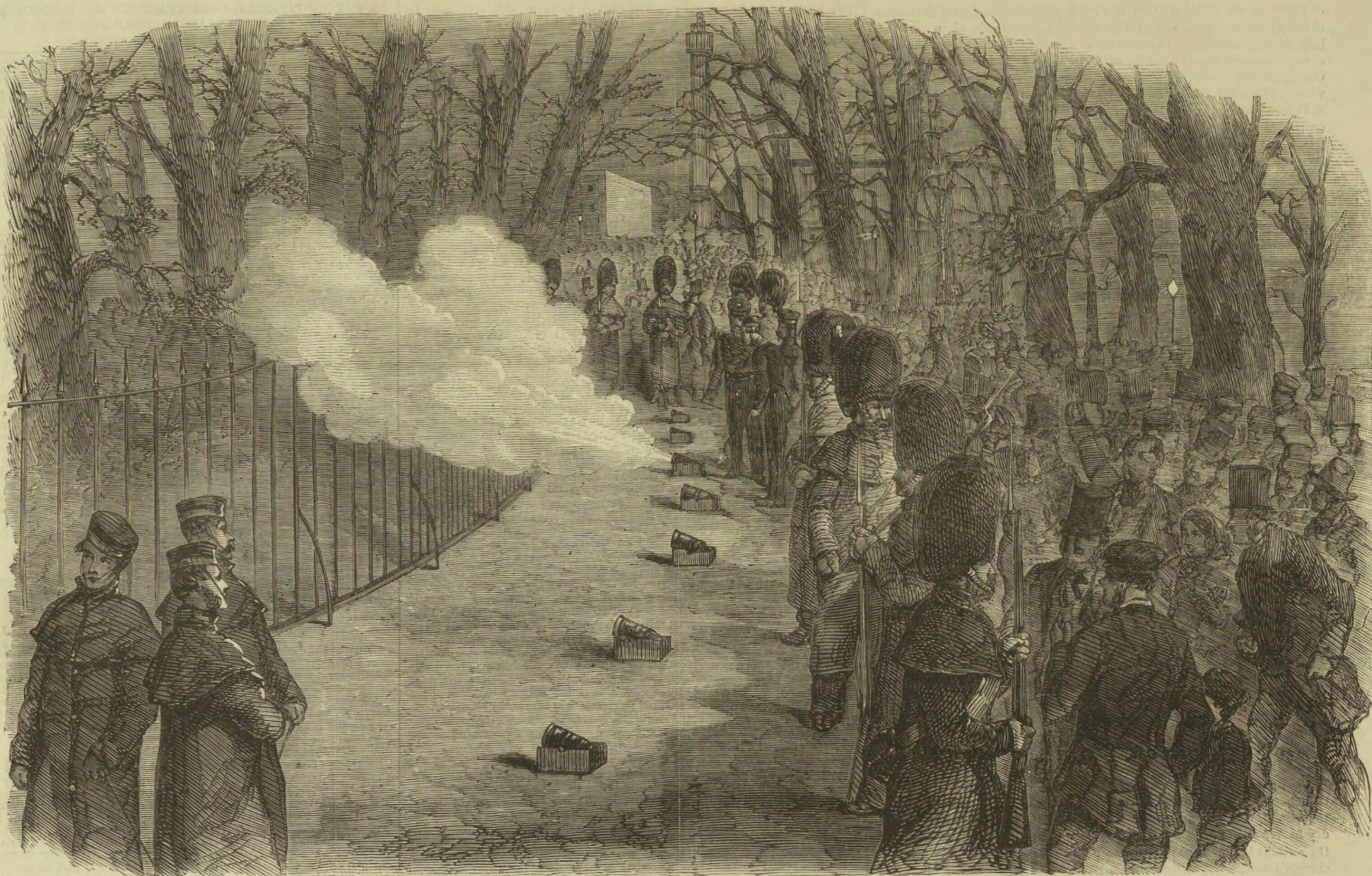
THE PROCLAMATION OF PEACE ON MONDAY.

ON Sunday afternoon, shortly after two o'clock, intelligence reached London that an hour before, the anxious work of negotiation was consummated, and that all the Great Powers of Europe, with Sardinia and Turkey, were once more united in a solemn Act of Peace. The news, unaccompanied by any public demonstration, at first spread slowly, but afterwards became sufficiently known to be a subject of voluntary thanksgiving at several places of worship at evening service.

The Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, Viscount Hardinge, G.C.B., after a protracted interview with Lord Panmure, the Minister of War, attended at the Horse Guards late in the afternoon, and shortly afterwards issued an order that the news of the signing of Peace at Paris was to be announced, both at St. James's park and at the Tower, by the firing of 101 guns. The orders were not issued from the Horse Guards until after seven o'clock, and, that Divine service might not be interrupted in the metropolitan churches, the hour appointed for the ceremony was ten o'clock. In the expectation that the guns would be fired a very large concourse of persons had collected in St. James's park, within the space leading from the entrance by the Horse Guards to the Duke of York's Column. Fifty-one guns [were brought from the gun-house in the park, and arranged with the mounds facing the inclosure; Sergeant Rickard, and the invalid corps under his command, being assisted by a fatigue party of the Scots Fusilier Guards, from Wellington Barracks; and a party of the Grenadier Guards, on guard at the Tilt-yard, kept the ground. At ten o'clock precisely the firing commenced. The effect of the unaccustomed sounds breaking the peculiar stillness of Sunday night in London, and associated with an event of deepest concern, was solemn in its character.

The military bands of St. George's and Wellington Barracks played the National Anthem, and when the Park guns had ceased to fire, the reports of the guns at the Tower of London were distinctly heard booming in the distance. Soon afterwards the bells of St. Martin's, and other churches in Westminster, with those of St. Dunstan's and St. Bride's, Fleet-street, were rung in honour of the event.

On Monday morning, at a few minutes before ten o'clock, the Lord



FIRING OF THE PARK GUNS.

Mayor, attended by Sheriffs Rose and Kennedy, the Sword-bearer, Mace-bearer, and City Marshal, proceeded to the stone balcony in front of the Mansion-house, where a raised dais has been erected, covered with crimson cloth, whence his Lordship read the appended despatch:—

Home office, March 31, 1856.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that a despatch has been this morning received from the Earl of Clarendon, her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated Paris, the 30th, announcing that a definitive treaty for the restoration of peace, and for the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, was yesterday signed at Paris by the Plenipotentiaries of her Majesty, of the Emperor of the French, of the King of Sardinia, and of the Sultan, and also of the Emperor of Austria and of the King of Prussia on the one part, and of the Emperor of All the Russias on the other.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, &c.

An immense concourse of persons had assembled in front of the Man-

sion-house, to hear this important despatch read, after which was a general huzza and waving of hats and handkerchiefs.

Precisely at twelve o'clock the civic functionaries, preceded by the Lord Mayor, left the Mansion-house and proceeded on foot to the Royal Exchange, from whence, amid much enthusiasm and loyalty, his Lordship read the despatch which appears above. The roofs and windows of all the houses in immediate contiguity to the Royal Exchange were crowded, the greater part by ladies, who evinced lively interest in the proceedings by a unanimous waving of handkerchiefs. Standards and union-jacks were floating from most of the public and Governmental buildings, and also on the mast-heads of the ships in the river.

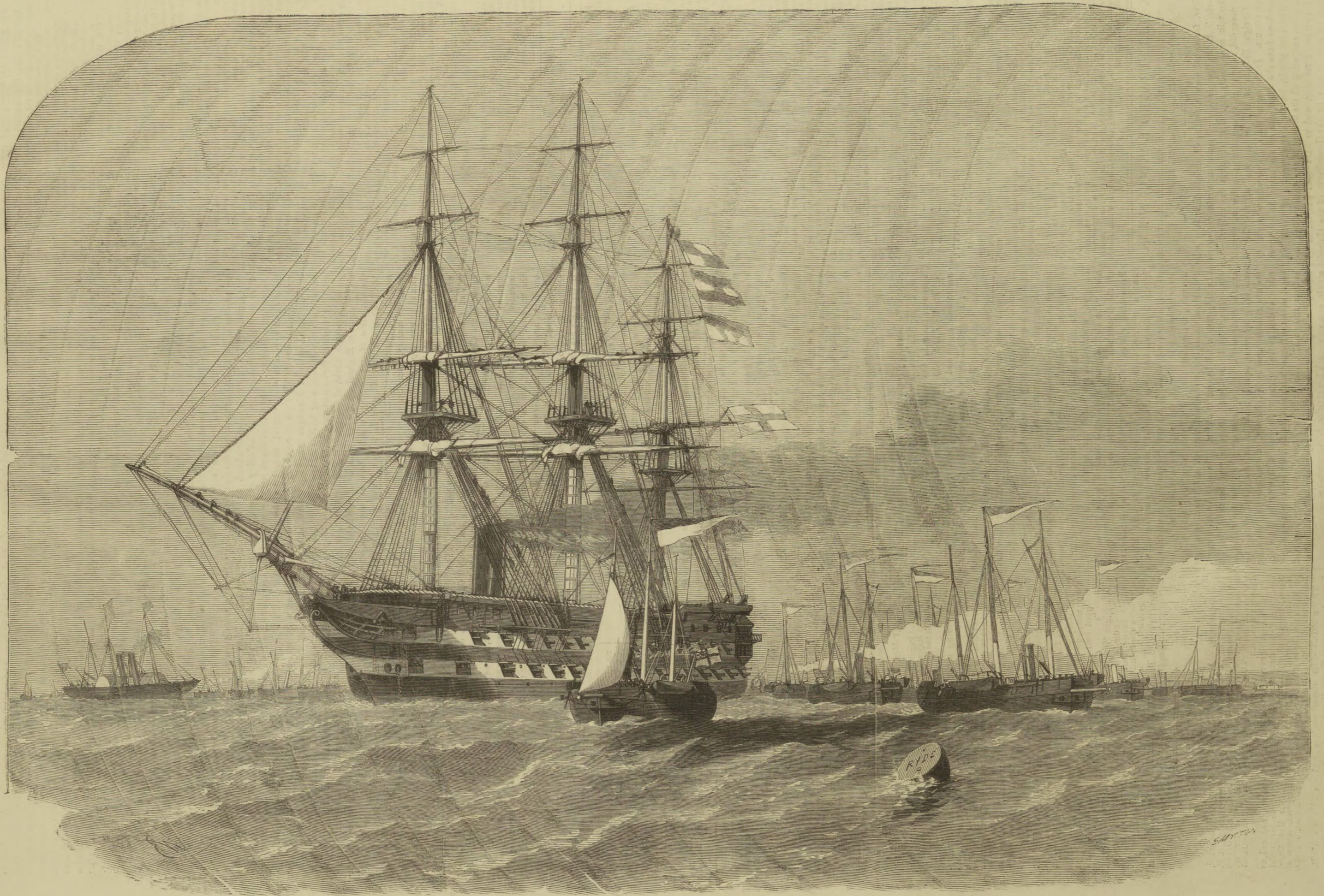
On taking his seat at the London Sessions on Monday the Lord Mayor addressed the gentlemen of the bar and persons present, and said that he had received a communication from Sir George Grey that the treaty of peace had been signed. Mr. Bodkin asked his Lordship whether it was in contemplation to have a general illumination in the City. His Lordship said that at present nothing of that kind had been proposed, but such a thing might take place hereafter. The announcement was received with

applause, for although a great number had heard the guns fired on Sunday night, they had not heard the news on sufficient authority.

Shortly after twelve o'clock on Monday, the guns were taken out into St. James's-park, and ranged along the line from which they are usually fired. A vast number of persons collected in the park, and waited patiently for the expected salute. At one o'clock the sound of the Tower guns was heard, and all were on the *qui vive* for similar proceedings in the park. The dense mass of persons who had collected, numbering by this time, many thousands, pressed forward with eager anxiety to the place where the soldiers were stationed, and for the first time heard, to their great disappointment, that the guns were not to be fired. At twenty minutes before two arrangements were made for the removal of the guns to the place from which they had been brought, and the people displayed their indignation in very loud terms. They yelled and hooted with great perseverance until the soldiers had deposited the guns, and then on their way to the Horse Guards pelted them with stones; but the men took the matter very quietly, and by the prompt interference of the police all mischief was prevented.



FIRING OF THE TOWER GUNS.



H.M.S. "COLOSSUS," WITH THE GUN-BOAT FLOTILLA, LEAVING THE MOTHERBANK FOR PORTLAND.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

H.M.S. "COLOSSUS," WITH THE GUN-BOAT FLOTILLA, LEAVING THE MOTHERBANK FOR PORTLAND.

OUR Illustration represents the *Colossus*, 81 guns, Captain the Hon. Henry Keppel, C.B., with gun-boats of the red and white division, getting under way from the Motherbank for Portland.

On Monday, 24th ult., Sir Charles Wood, Bart., M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, and Rear-Admiral the Right Hon. Sir Maurice F. F. Berkeley, K.C.B., M.P., Senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty, accompanied by his son and private secretary, Mr. Berkeley, arrived at Portsmouth, and were entertained at the Admiralty-house by Vice-Admiral Sir George F. Seymour, K.C.B., G.C.H., where they slept. At 10.30 steam was ordered to be got up on board the Admiralty yachts *Black Eagle*, Master-Commander Petley; *Vivid*, Master-Commander W. H. Allen; and *Fire Queen*, Master-Commander F. W. Paul; and about eleven o'clock the Lords of the Admiralty before named, accompanied by Sir George Seymour, Captain Codrington, C.B., and Captain the Hon. J. R. Drummond, C.B., embarked in the *Black Eagle* for Spithead. The *Vivid* and *Fire Queen* followed, and, as her Majesty's steam-yachts *Fairy* and *Elfin* were going out at the same time to try their machinery, &c., prior to being reported ready for the service of the Court, the scene presented was a very interesting one.

The Admiralty squadron steered towards the fleet, on the way to the Motherbank; the flag-ship *Victory* having previously made signal for the *Colossus*, 81, Captain the Hon. Henry Keppel, C.B., and the gun-boat flotilla under his command, to get under way—signal having previously been made from the flag-ship at Spithead early in the morning for all to get up steam. When their Lordships arrived at the Motherbank, the gun-boat squadron (comprising between twenty and thirty four and two gun steam-vessels) weighed in two columns, following the *Colossus*, and proceeded towards the westward to join the blue and light divisions of gun-boats, and H.M.S.S. *Sanspareil*, 71 guns, at Portland. After a time, the gun-boats, in addition to their steam, made all sail to keep their allotted stations; in doing this the fleet-keel *Vivid* acted as a sort of whipper-in, being ever and anon sent by the Admiralty ahead to order such and such a boat to get up and keep her station. When off Osborne, Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour and friends returned in the *Fire Queen* to harbour, and landed at three o'clock. The *Black Eagle*, with the Lords of the Admiralty on board, proceeded with the flotilla for Portland. The whole force passed over the "Bridge" (off the Needles) at about two o'clock, at which spot the *Vivid* left them, making all speed towards Portland in two lines, one on each quarter of the *Colossus*, and each keeping position as well as it could according to the seniority of the respective Commanders. They arrived at Portland the same afternoon, and it was intended that all the gun-boats of the different divisions should go through their exercising the next day, but the weather proved so boisterous that this intention could not be carried out; and on Thursday all four of the divisions, with the line-of-battle ships, returned to the Motherbank, there to await the review, which is expected to take place on the 16th inst.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 6.—Second Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 7.—Badajos taken, 1812.
TUESDAY, 8.—Hudson's Bay Company chartered, 1692.
WEDNESDAY, 9.—Lord Chancellor Bacon died, 1626.
THURSDAY, 10.—Anglo-French Alliance, 1854.
FRIDAY, 11.—Bonaparte abdicated, 1814.
SATURDAY, 12.—America discovered, 1492. Rodney's victory, 1782.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 12, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 35	2 55	3 20	3 40	3 55	4 20	4 35
5 15	5 35	5 50	6 10	6 25	6 50	7 15

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KEY TO THE ENGRAVINGS OF THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA

(See page 361 of Supplement, published with the present Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Commencing from the left hand, the four Plenipotentiaries standing are Lord Wellington (England), Count de Lobo (Portugal), Prince von Hardenberg (Prussia), and M. de Saldanha (Portugal). In front of the above is seated Count de Lowenheim (Sweden). Next is Count Alexis de Noailles (France), and Prince Metternich (Austria), Count de Latour Dupin (France), and Count de Nesselrode (Russia). The seated Plenipotentiary next is Count de Palmella (Portugal); and next, in the centre of the picture, is Viscount Castlereagh (England). Next at the table are the Duc de Dalberg (France), and Baron von Weissenberg (Austria). Standing behind the latter is Prince de Rasoumofsky (Russia); and next is General Lord Stewart (England). Next, seated at the table, is Chevalier Gomez Labrador (Spain); and next, with one hand upon the table, stands Lord Clancarty (England). Next is Mr. Wacken, reading a document to Chevalier Gentz, below whom, seated at the table, is Talleyrand (France). Next, seated, is Baron von Humboldt (Prussia), behind whom stands Lord Cathcart (England).

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1856.

WE believe, for several reasons, that our American difficulties will "blow over." In the first place, our Transatlantic relatives—even those who talk most loudly and illogically upon the subject—do not, and never did, mean to go to war with us, either on account of the Foreign Enlistment Bill or on that of the Central American dispute. In the second place, the persons whose angry words reach us from the other side of the ocean do not speak for the American people, but for a small section of them. In the third place, supposing all the bluster of the Anti-Anglian faction to have meant something, and to have been adopted in its spirit and its consequences by the Government of the United States, the circumstances of Europe, and of Great Britain more particularly, have changed so greatly since the conclusion of peace with Russia, that those who might not have hesitated to provoke

this country six months ago would certainly hesitate to do so at the present time.

We dismiss altogether the Enlistment question, as unworthy of greater notice than it has already received. That of Central America is more complicated. On the first question the British Government has yielded—because it was in the wrong. On the second question it will not, dare not, and cannot yield—because it is in the right; and because a principle is involved, the pusillanimous betrayal of which would impair the dignity and tarnish the honour of this nation. The Americans, with a not unnatural desire to extend their dominion over the North American continent, have quarrelled from time to time with Mexico, and have managed, by diplomacy, or by war, or by shutting their eyes to the doings of Filibusters and outlaws, to annex large and valuable territories to the States. Their doing so is no business of ours. This country does not seek to intermeddle in the wars of the Western Hemisphere; but if the Government of the United States, either from a mania for annexation, or from a tolerance for the proceedings of Filibusters, should attack the rights of this country, in Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, or Mosquitia, or suffer its subjects to do so, without affording redress, the matter assumes another aspect. The United States have permitted American citizens to invade Nicaragua; and Great Britain neither complains, nor asserts any right to complain, or even to remonstrate. The Governor of Nicaragua issued a proclamation on the 8th of February last annexing to Nicaragua—which on its side is evidently preparing for its own annexation to the United States—a portion, if not the whole, of the territory of Mosquitia. By this act the rights of England are directly invaded. Mosquitia is under the protection of this country, and has been so since the year 1687, when the then King made a formal and voluntary cession of his dominions to Great Britain; which, without occupying his country, bound herself to protect him and his successors. This right was respected even by the Spaniards, at a time when they claimed, as the Americans appear to do now, to be lords paramount of the soil of Central America. Those Americans who would annex Mosquitia, and who endeavour to justify the acts of the Governor of Nicaragua, assert that, by the treaty known as the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, Great Britain renounced her sovereignty over that district. The British Government denies that it ever did make such renunciation; that it ever intended to make renunciation; and maintains that neither the words of the treaty, nor its spirit and obvious meaning, bear out in the remotest degree the interpretation sought to be put upon them. Great Britain has offered to submit the dispute to arbitration, and to abide by the award; and the United States' Government has threatened to refuse arbitration, and to submit the dispute, if need be, to the decision of the sword. We believe the threat to be an idle one. We do not believe that any Government will so dare to set the public opinion of its own people and that of the world at defiance. But, in order to be prepared for all contingencies, the British and French Governments, at the request of the British and French residents in Mosquitia, have resolved to unite their naval forces now in the Mexican Gulf, and dispatch them immediately for the protection of Greytown.

There is a disposition on the part of some members of the United States' Government to disavow the proceedings of the Filibusters in and out of office in Nicaragua. We are glad to observe this, for it shows returning reason, or at the least a mis-giving that such a course will ultimately become imperative. Indeed, President Pierce himself appears to have taken preliminary steps towards escaping from the dilemma into which he has drifted, and speaks in his recent Message to Congress of "lawless proceedings"—that must be those of General Walker and the other Americans who have thrust the Union into this perplexity. Let us hope that this disposition on the part of the American Government will grow powerful enough to dictate the policy of the Union. We trust that either in this way, or in some other, the good sense and good feeling existent on both sides of the Atlantic will preserve the world from so fratricidal a catastrophe as a war.

From a Parliamentary paper presented by command of her Majesty during the last Session, it appears that considerable reductions were made in the tariffs of France, Spain, and Portugal, between 1853 and 1855. France lowered the duties on pig-iron, and on iron in bars and plates, on cast and wrought steel, and on coals; Portugal reduced the rates on cotton thread, china, porcelain, and iron nails; Spain, on iron tools, copper ore, and zinc. The liberal policy of international freedom in commerce was interrupted by war, or at least not carried to that extent which foreign Governments contemplated; but the restoration of peace now affords an opportunity of enlarging and accelerating the industrial movement. To promote this object an association has been formed at Hanley, in Staffordshire, the immediate purpose being to introduce the beautiful pottery ware of the district into France. At a public meeting held in Hanley, most numerous and influentially attended, it was stated that at the Paris Exhibition, when "the visitors came to the stalls devoted to the productions of the Potteries, they were found to be crowded. Every Frenchman wanted to buy everything. It was a positive fact that a representative of one of the most eminent houses in the Potteries had been obliged to label every article on his stall with the word 'Sold.'" An extract was also read from a letter addressed to two of the most respectable firms in the Potteries, to the effect that the Emperor intended to take off the prohibition duties this session, and that in a few months a more liberal system would be seen in action. The ornamental ware of France, particularly the Sèvres china, is very beautiful, but its extreme cost places it beyond the reach of all but the rich. In comparing two vases, equally beautiful in design and execution—the one manufactured by Mr. Minton, of Staffordshire; the other manufactured at the Sèvres works—the difference in price was enormous—the former being sold for £15, the latter being charged at from £60 to £70. As to ordinary utensils—as cups, jugs, and basins, for daily domestic use—the superiority of the English article, at a very much lower price, is incontestable.

Free-trade between France and England must be based on the principle of reciprocity. Louis Napoleon has many prejudices to encounter, and it is our interest and our duty to remove difficulties

from his path. We must remember that a nation which refuses to buy cannot sell. Providence in its wisdom has ordained that various climates shall yield different products, and, though political geography separates peoples by the boundaries of rivers, seas, and mountains, commercial exchanges are designed to unite them in a common brotherhood. If we desire to find a market in France for our pottery, coals, and iron, we must permit France to find a market in the United Kingdom for wines and spirits, which are her staple products. The late Mr. Porter, of the Board of Trade, recommended a reduction of the duty on wines to one shilling per imperial gallon, and other authorities have proposed to lower the duty on brandy to 5s. per imperial gallon. These rates, it is now understood, would be acceptable to the Emperor of the French.

Mr. Oliveira, M.P., who has laboured ably and earnestly for the revision of the wine-duties, attended the Hanley meeting, and communicated much valuable information. Some years since that gentleman formed a committee, consisting of 120 members of Parliament, and 1000 magistrates, medical and surgical practitioners, and men of science, all desirous of introducing cheap and good wine into the country, not only as a wise expansion of Free-trade principles, but because a wholesome beverage is calculated to supersede the noxious and demoralising practice of spirit-drinking. Mr. Oliveira stated that in Paris, Bordeaux, Tours, Montpellier, and other parts of France; in Lisbon, Oporto, and other wine districts of Portugal; in Xeres, Cadiz, and other parts of Spain; in Germany, Sicily, and some parts of Italy, the market of England was demanded as the grand object. He had an interview with M. Duffour Dubergier, the President of the Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce, who assured him that there was a strong feeling in favour of reciprocity, and of a large reduction in tariffs. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, late Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressed the same sentiments; as did M. Ducos, Minister of Marine; and M. Magne, Minister of Commerce and Public Works. All these eminent men were in favour of the principle of Free-trade; but they more particularly referred to a lowering of the duties on coal and iron, cotton and pottery, when imported into France. It is plain, therefore, that our neighbours are ready to meet us half way; and our Government ought eagerly to embrace the golden opportunity. Not only would an increasing trade be promoted between the two countries; but, as one of the consequences of that increasing trade, we should secure the best guarantee for perpetual peace. Men engaged in trade are not so senseless as to shoot their customers. It is to be hoped that this subject will engage the early attention of Parliament.

THE REVENUE.

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of the United Kingdom, for the Year and Quarter ended March 31, 1856—showing the Increase or Decrease thereof.

	The YEAR ended March 31, 1856.			QUARTER ended March 31, 1856.		
	Net Revenue	Increase	Decrease	Net Revenue	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	21,788,770	789,996	...	5,225,169	497,358	...
Excise	16,636,670	295,542	...	2,631,600	37,082	...
Stamps	6,894,307	...	238,642	1,766,473	...	55,766
Taxes	2,958,626	...	177,517	207,738	7,708	...
Property-tax	14,814,757	3,560,12	...	6,897,280	937,946	...
Post-office	1,171,695	...	162,46	327,399	...	2,524
Crown Lands	281,516	8,944	...	67,000	1,000	...
Miscellaneous	1,158,148	421,690	...	298,502	55,141	...
Totals	65,704,489	5,076,292	578,621	17,361,161	1,535,935	58,290
		£4,497,671			£1,477,645	
		Net Increase.			Net Increase.	

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the youthful members of the Royal family, arrived at Buckingham Palace from Windsor Castle shortly before five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon. The Royal party travelled from Windsor by a special train on the South-Western Railway to the private station at Vauxhall, and thence proceeded in seven of the Queen's carriages, escorted by a party of the 3rd Light Dragoons.

Viscount Palmerston and Lord Panmure had audiences of the Queen on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Queen and the Prince have taken equestrian exercise during the week; and on Wednesday her Majesty and his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Princess Royal, honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

Lord Alfred Paget (Clerk Marshal) and Colonel Francis Hugh Seymour have relieved Major-General Hucleley and Captain the Hon. D. de Ros in their duties as the Equerries in Waiting to the Queen and Prince Albert.

The following notice has been issued from the Lord Chamberlain's office:—"Notice is hereby given, that the Levee announced to be held on Wednesday, the 16th inst., will be held on Tuesday, the 15th inst." This alteration is understood to have been made in order to allow her Majesty to be present at the great naval review at Portsmouth on the 16th inst.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France and the Countess Persigny left town yesterday afternoon for Paris. M. Charles Baudin has arrived at Albert-gate-house, and will act as Chargé d'Affaires during the Ambassador's absence.

The Duchess of Beaufort gave birth to a daughter on Wednesday, at Badminton. Her Grace and the infant are going on well.

Viscountess Palmerston has issued cards for "receptions" this evening (Saturday), and on the 12th inst.

The marriage of the Lady Rachel Russell with Lord James Wandesford Butler took place on Thursday morning, at St. Peter's Church.

The Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, M.P., gave a dinner on Wednesday evening to his colleagues in the Cabinet. All the Ministers attended except Earl Granville and the Earl of Clarendon—the latter being absent in Paris, and the former, we regret to learn, too unwell to attend.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli have arrived at Grosvenor-gate from Hughenden Manor, for the season.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. S. Brown to Hasguard, Pembrokeshire; Rev. C. J. Forshaw to Cudworth, Somerset; Rev. R. P. Hall to Bromsberrow, Gloucestershire. *Vicarage*: The Rev. G. F. Deedes to Haydon, near Sleaford, Lincolnshire. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. Owen to St. Stephen's Church, Tonbridge; Rev. C. D. Marston to Christ Church, Dover.

THE GOLDEN LECTURESHIP.—Amongst the names announced as candidates for the above appointment are Dr. Croly, and the Rev. Daniel Moore, Incumbent of Camden Church, Camberwell; the Rev. Capel Molyneux, Minister of Lock Chapel; the Rev. R. Bickersteth, Rector of St. Giles's and Canon of Salisbury; and the Rev. Thos. Jackson, of Stoke Newington.

TESTIMONIAL.—The churchwardens and parishioners of St. Ippolyt's cum Great Wymondley, Herts, have just presented to the Rev. John Scott Whiting a valuable clock, to which there were nearly 200 subscribers, as a tribute of their regard and esteem, and in testimony of their deep sense of his zealous and faithful discharge of the arduous duties of his ministry, upon his resigning the curacy.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

HER MAJESTY'S BENEVOLENCE.—Amongst the numerous acts of kindness displayed by her Majesty towards the wounded soldiers from the Crimea, the public will be gratified to learn that, at her own private expense, the Queen has commanded Mr. Heather Bigg, of 29, Leicester-square, the well-known anatomical mechanic, to construct artificial legs for the following men, whose severe mutilation attracted her Majesty's notice during her recent visits to the hospitals of Portsmouth and Chatham:—Corporal Burland, John Connery, Francis Ready, Samuel Huson, Corporal Marks, and Patrick Kenny. With the exception of Kenny and Huson, all these poor fellows had lost both legs; they are now, however, by her Majesty's bounty, enabled to walk as well as heretofore. In addition to these, the Queen requested Mr. Bigg to supply—Greenway, William Boyce, and Henry Ashforth, with artificial arms. The first man had his arm shot away just below the shoulder; the second lost both arms by the explosion of a shell whilst he was in the act of lifting a pickaxe above his head; and the third lost his arm below the elbow. A man named Edward Sharpe has also been presented with a spinal apparatus; his vertebrae having been injured so severely by a spent ball as to prevent the poor fellow standing erect. By the aid of the spinal instrument employed he now walks perfectly upright with the utmost ease.

VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.—On Wednesday night the friends of voluntary education held a meeting in Crosby-hall for the purpose of considering the educational measures of the Government, and Lord John Russell's resolutions, and the propriety of adopting proceedings in opposition thereto. The meeting was numerously attended. Mr. Barnes, M.P., who presided, said that there were three distinct measures connected with education before Parliament—the measure for the creation of a President of the Council, Earl Granville's measure on education, and Lord J. Russell's resolutions—which he believed were to be considered on the 10th of the month. In the course of some remarks on Lord John Russell's recent speech, he said his Lordship affirmed that the operation of the Factory Act in respect of education had been beneficial. He (Mr. Barnes) did not believe the fact was so, and for this reason, that the "half-timers" were very indifferent to teaching, and came to school half asleep after their half-day's work, whilst they disregarded the institution also, because it was forced on them by law (Hear, hear). It had been said that people were criminal because they were not educated. Did education prevent drunkenness? Was there no crime in America, where they had State education? They might make schools as thick as palaces, but they would never prevent crime as long as there were so many thousands who rose every morning without knowing where to get a breakfast—Mr. Bell, M.P., was decidedly of opinion that the interference of the State in educational matters was unwisely prejudicial to education itself (Hear, hear). He was a friend of the voluntary principle, because it was the only practicable one. He hoped that religion would never be separated from education (Hear, hear). Yet, if they had a State education, they must do injustice by supporting a religious system to the exclusion of all others, or they would educate all sects indifferently, which would lead to the forgetfulness of all distinctive religion. He believed that the best motive to education was to give people an interest in being educated (Hear).—Mr. E. Baines said that no persons were more friendly to education, even to universal education, than the voluntaries. The religious body to which he belonged showed how friendly they were to education when they subscribed no less than £190,000 to promote education. But, though he loved education much, he loved freedom more (Hear). It was quite clear from the examples of ancient Rome, China, France, and Denmark, and other countries, that peoples might be educated and yet remain slaves. He was sure that education would be the result of freedom. The free press and the cheap literature of this country were evidences of the progress of education. The social advantages of education were so great that they might rely on them as a stimulus to education. Mr. B. Scott did not believe that the State was honestly desirous of extending education, because it always exhibited the greatest neglect of schoolmasters and literary men.—The Rev. Andrew Reed said that the expense of education under the British school system was only 12s. a head per year, whilst under the Government system the expense was now 31s. or 32s. a head (Hear, hear). There were no adequate results to justify this increased cost. He did not believe that centralisation was a good thing. Chevalier Bunsen admitted that it had failed on the Continent, and that the greatness of England was owing to her local and diffused vigour (Hear, hear). Montalembert made the same remark in his recent work on England. Even in America, which had been quoted as a triumphant example of the advantages of a State education, the people were losing their hold of religion, which he believed was wholly owing to the secular principle of education there adopted.—Resolutions condemnatory of Lord John Russell's scheme were passed unanimously.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The eighth anniversary of this valuable institution was celebrated on Wednesday evening, at the London Tavern. About 150 gentlemen sat down to dinner, under the presidency of Sir J. V. Shelley M.P. It will be recollected that the hospital of the institution in Victoria-park was opened in March, 1855, under the auspices of H.R.H. Prince Albert, who has ever since taken a most lively interest in the institution, having honoured it with a most careful inspection on the day immediately preceding the festival, when he expressed his entire satisfaction with the general arrangements. The number of patients relieved during the past year has amounted to 4734, making a total from the commencement of the institution of 39,050. When it is remembered that one-third of the whole mortality of the United Kingdom is attributed to diseases of the chest, the importance of institutions like the City of London Hospital for the relief of that class of disorders will be fully appreciated. London, with its vast population, has only two hospitals for pulmonary diseases—the Brompton and City of London Hospitals—and the immense number of applications for admission into both shows how necessary are institutions of this description. In addition to the merits of the charity itself, the committee had taken unusual pains to make the celebration of the annual festival attractive. The musical arrangements especially were of unusual excellence, including the talents of Miss Dolby, Miss Poole, and Mr. Lockett; the whole being under the direction of Mr. Genge. After the reading of the annual report by Mr. Slater, the secretary, a list of subscriptions was read, including twenty subscriptions of £100 each from eminent mercantile firms. The whole collection amounted to nearly £5000.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—At a quarterly meeting of the Council of this Hospital, on Tuesday, the 1st of April, at which L. Holbeck, Esq., presided, a statement of the operations of the hospital for the past three months was read to the Board, from which it appeared that there had been admitted, of in-patients, 261; of out-patients, 2636; of cases of accident, 486—the greater part of whom had been restored to health, and enabled to resume their occupations for the support of their families. During the same period the hospital had suffered the loss, by death, of several very kind supporters, and now greatly required additional assistance from the benevolent, to enable it to fulfil the important duty of relieving to the utmost of its power the numerous sick, disabled, and helpless persons daily applying to it for relief.

HOLLOWAY AND NORTH ISLINGTON DISPENSARY.—The annual festival of this charity was held on Thursday week, the 27th ult., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street; George Fenning, Esq., one of the vice-presidents, in the chair, supported by several of the local magistrates, clergy, &c. The company was much larger than usual, and a sufficient sum was collected to pay off the balance due on account of two new dispensary-houses recently erected. On this occasion a testimonial of the value of one hundred guineas was presented to the treasurer, Samuel Lewis, Esq., having been subscribed for chiefly by the governors of this institution, and manufactured by Mr. Smily, of Crown-street, Finsbury. It consists of a centre-piece, representing the oak-tree, standing on a chased tripod base, on which are figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity. On the panels in one compartment is a representation of the Good Samaritan; in another, of Our Saviour Feeding the Multitude; and the third compartment contains the following inscription:—"Presented to Samuel Lewis, Esq., Treasurer to the Holloway and North Islington Dispensary, and the Holloway Soup Society, by the Governors and Friends thereof, as a token of their personal esteem, and in recognition of the invaluable services rendered by him to those institutions, more especially in promoting the erection of the present New Buildings, and the establishment of three Branch Dispensaries. March 27, 1856."

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR.—The annual general meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution took place at the Dispensary, Dean-street, Soho, on Wednesday. The Rev. F. Davis Lamb in the chair. The object of the institution, which was founded in 1816, is for the cure of the poor afflicted with diseases of the ear. The number of patients admitted during the past year amounted to 1089, of whom 376 were discharged cured, and 184 relieved through the instrumentality of Mr. Harvey, the surgeon of the Dispensary. The patients chiefly comprised domestic servants, artisans, and clerks in offices. A large proportion of the cases presented at the institution were traced to living in crowded and damp localities, want of cleanliness and out-door exercise, intemperance, insufficient and adulterated food, sleeping in damp beds, &c. The committee, in their annual report, express their regret that the funds of the society are not adequate to placing the society upon the footing that its sphere of usefulness entitles it to, or to supplying the requirements of the vast number of its patients, which usually amount to 100 a day.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.—The friends of this institution celebrated its annual festival by dining together in the Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening. The meeting was in every way a very successful one. About 150 gentlemen sat down to dinner, and a sum of not less than £2000 was contributed before the list of toasts had been gone through. The chair was filled by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor; and, besides the leading members, a very large number of the medical profession were present.

ST. MARK'S HOSPITAL.—On Thursday evening the anniversary festival of this excellent institution was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided, and was supported by Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Rose, and other influential supporters of the charity. The usual loyal toasts having been drunk, the right hon. chairman proposed "Prosperity to St. Mark's Hospital," and eloquently advocated the claims of the institution to support, for the cure of a most afflicting class of diseases; his Lordship adding that the cost of building the hospital, in the City-road, was now entirely defrayed; but that, owing to the inadequate funds, only twenty-four beds could at present be provided. His Lordship's appeal was answered by subscriptions which, during the evening, amounted to £700. The healths of the Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor were then drunk; and were followed by the toasts of the honorary physician, Dr. Spurgin, and other officers of the institution. The health of Mr. Frederick Salmon, the founder of the hospital, and its honorary surgeon since its establishment, in 1835, was then drunk with enthusiasm; and Mr. Salmon, in his reply, drew a touching picture of the many difficulties he had encountered in founding the hospital; strongly appealed to the company for the extended support of the hospital, which had, during the past year, relieved 682 patients; and, in conclusion, Mr. Salmon paid a graceful tribute to the able advocacy of its claims by the right hon. chairman. The dinner was well served by Messrs. Staples; and the musical arrangements, by Mr. Francis, gave great satisfaction.

THE INCOME-TAX.—Some misapprehensions appear to prevail with regard to the period after the conclusion of peace at which the augmented rate of income-tax granted by the Act of last year is to terminate. An impression is entertained by many that it is not to extend beyond six months from that event, and the public generally will probably be surprised to learn that, as the law stands, it will continue till the 6th of April, 1858. The increased duty was granted "during the war, and until the 6th of April which shall first happen after the expiration of one year from the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace." This ratification will probably be delayed for four weeks—namely, to the 28th of April. The expiration of one year from that date will fall on the 28th of April, 1857, and the duty is consequently to expire on the 6th of April, 1858, which will be the first 6th of April that will happen afterwards. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will most probably not avail himself of the peculiar extension of time given to the operation of the Act by the delay in the ratification; but it is desirable that the public should be informed of the exact position in which the matter is at present placed.

SERIOUS FIRE IN FLEET-STREET.—On Tuesday night a fire, attended with a serious loss of property, broke out on the premises of Messrs. Dobbs and Co., fancy stationers, of Fleet-street. The premises are of considerable extent, being bounded on one side by the printing-office of Messrs. Vizetelly, and the extensive range of buildings belonging to Messrs. Levy and Co., whilst the printing-office of the *Morning Herald*, in Shoe-lane, nearly flanks it on the north-east side. The flames shot up with intense fury; and soon, aided by the reflection of the sky, the fire-engines arrived from all quarters. The flames, however, travelled so rapidly from the lower floor, in which they began, that the firemen decided on directing their efforts to prevent the fire from spreading to the adjoining property. Several of the neighbouring houses caught fire, but the flames were easily extinguished, and the conflagration was ultimately got under. Messrs. Dobbs' place was entirely destroyed.

FIRE IN AVE MARIA-LANE.—On Wednesday night, at a few minutes to eleven o'clock, an extensive fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Marlborough and Son, the publishers and news-agents, of Ave Maria-lane. The alarm having been given, the engines soon arrived at the spot, and in the course of an hour obtained a mastery over the fire. Messrs. Marlborough and Son, who had but just dispatched their monthly parcels, are insured for both premises and stock. The damage sustained, both from fire and water, by the adjacent premises, are also fully provided for. The loss is calculated at £13,000.

EXECUTION OF BOUSFIELD.—On Monday morning the extreme penalty of the law was carried into execution in the case of Bousfield. He was convicted for the murder of his wife, aged twenty-eight, and their three children, in Portland-street, Soho—the only assignable motive being unfounded jealousy. From the time of his conviction the wretched man persevered in maintaining a sullen, morose, and dogged appearance, pretending at times no recollection of the murder, and that the whole was a dream to him. He was repeatedly spoken to by the Rev. Mr. Davis on the subject of his crime; but all that could be got from him was, "Pray don't talk about it, it is a horrid dream." On Saturday last he threw himself into the fire in his cell, by which he burnt his face severely; and from that hour to his death he continued in the same state, never uttering a word, and taking no sustenance but a little milk and wine. When brought out for execution he appeared completely prostrate; so much so, indeed, that he had to be carried to the scaffold. After the bolt was withdrawn the wretched man exhibited a degree of power and strength astonishing to those who had seen him but a minute before. He raised himself upward by sheer muscular strength, and succeeded in placing each of his feet on the right side of the scaffold. In that position he supported himself for several seconds. This was done several times before he ceased to exist, causing great outcries from the assembled crowd. At nine o'clock the Sheriffs proceeded to the drop, when the body, having hung the usual time, was cut down.

THE MISSING STEAMER "PACIFIC."—A letter received at Lloyd's on Thursday, from their agent at Figueira, dated 24th March, says:—"The *Skipwith*, arrived here from Newfoundland, fell in with ice to the distance of 200 miles from the land, and saw the lights of a steamer in the ice." The *Skipwith* left St. John's, Newfoundland, 13th February.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT IN CORK.—Last Saturday night, in the house of a man named Sullivan, in Penrose-lane, Cork, about forty people had assembled at the wake of an infant child, aged two years. The night had far advanced when a woman remarked that she thought she heard something creaking. To this Sullivan, who was standing, leaning by the jam of the door, unthinkingly replied there was not enough in the room to pull down the house. At that very moment the floor gave way, and he and his forty friends were precipitated with a fearful crash to the base of the house, where they were huddled together in one indescribable mass of dead and dying. When assistance was obtained, it was found that nineteen persons were killed and six severely injured.

DARING GAROTTE ROBBERY IN LIVERPOOL.—Last Monday afternoon a lady named Mrs. Crowe, while walking on the path from Green-lane to West Derby, had crossed the stile behind Newsham-house, when she was seized by two ruffians. One of them caught her by the throat, and stopped her breath, while the other pulled away from her dress her gold watch, gold chain, locket, and seals, and then made off. When sufficiently recovered she gave an alarm and being heard by some people in a neighbouring house they pursued the men, and, after a run of three miles, captured them. They were brought up on Tuesday morning, before the county magistrates, and fully committed for trial.

CELEBRATION OF THE SIGNATURE OF PEACE.—Yesterday (April 1) there was a banquet at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on account of the signature of peace. All the Plenipotentiaries of the Congress were present, together with his Excellency the Papal Nuncio, the entire diplomatic corps, the Archbishop of Paris, the Ministers, the Presidents of the Senate, of the Legislative Corps, and the Council of State, the Marshals of France, the Governor-General of the Invalides, the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, the great officers of the Crown, the President of the Committee of the Contentions, the President of the Council of the Prizes, and the Directors of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Count Walewski proposed, as a toast, "The permanent duration of peace." "The peace will be a lasting one," he said, "since it is honourable for all." All the guests received this toast with the most marked satisfaction.—*Moniteur of Tuesday.*

A CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—A large and influential committee, composed partly of naval and military officers, partly of clergymen and civilians, has been formed with the view of raising funds for the erection of a church in Constantinople, as the most appropriate monument to the memory of those who fell in the late war, and of gratitude to God for the restoration of peace. A public meeting will shortly be held for the promotion of this object, under the presidency of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has already received upwards of £1000 in aid of this object.

STATE OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—The typhus fever continues its ravages, and has lately carried off several medical men; among others, Dr. Arpa, physician to the Quarantine. General Engelhardt has also fallen a victim to the malady. It is affirmed that the disease is still more violent at Nicolaeff, and it is even said that the army of the South is losing 1000 men a day, but this is most likely an exaggeration. The military authorities do everything in their power to stop the contagion by affording more room in the hospitals, but no very great results have been obtained. Out of 300 sick militiamen who were sent off to this place from Otkahoff, twenty died on the road, and thirty soon after their arrival.—*Letter from Odessa, March 14.*

A HORRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—About sixteen miles south of this, near the station known as Margarettsville, the trestle-work is some thirty feet high, and has long been regarded as very insecure; in fact, the engineer had just "shut-off" steam, intending to cross at a slow rate of speed, when the engine left the track, and was followed by the whole train, consisting of an express car, a baggage and mail car, and two passenger cars. Before any of those on the train had time either to reflect or act, it was found that the cars were on fire, and, horrible to relate, no less than four persons were literally roasted in the flames. Every car was also entirely consumed. Even the woodwork on the locomotive, and the entire mail and express freight, were so thoroughly destroyed, that nothing remains but a pile of ashes, with here and there a brass lock, to mark the scene of devastation.—*Letter from Weldon, South Carolina.*

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

ROBERT SCOTT, ESQ., OF STOURBRIDGE AND GREAT BARR.

This gentleman, whose decease occurred at his residence, in Stourbridge, on the 21st ult., was the youngest son of the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved, of York. He was born the 15th July, 1803, and married, the 17th Feb., 1830, Sarah, sole daughter and heiress of John Scott, Esq., of Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, and Great Barr, in the county of Stafford. He was High Sheriff in 1830 for Worcestershire. He assumed, on the occasion of his marriage, the surname and arms of Scott only, by Royal Sign Manual. Mr. Robert Scott was educated for the legal profession, and becoming, the 23rd Jan., 1829, a Barrister of the Middle Temple, first went the Northern Circuit, and subsequently changed to the Oxford. He was a magistrate for the counties of Worcester and Stafford, and a Deputy Lieutenant of Worcestershire. In 1841 he was returned to Parliament for Walsall, on the Liberal interest, defeating the Conservative candidate, Captain Gladstone, by a majority of 26. Mr. Scott leaves issue by his wife (who survives him) one son, John Charles Addyes, born the 29th Dec., 1830, and several daughters, one of whom is married to David Martineau, Esq. Mr. Scott's remains were interred, on the 28th ult., in the family vault at the Unitarian Chapel at Great Barr, and on the occasion most of the shops in Stourbridge were closed.

SIR CHARLES HOTHAM, K.C.B.

SIR CHARLES HOTHAM, K.C.B., Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, whose death is just announced, came of an ancient ancestry, and of a house distinguished in the marine annals of this country. Among the many naval officers in the family, both in direct descent and collaterally, the most celebrated was the Right Hon. William Baron Hotham, of South Dalton, in the Peerage of Ireland, so created the 7th March, 1797, with remainder, in default of direct descendants, to the heirs male of his deceased father, in consideration of his gallant achievements at sea as a Commander, at the commencement of hostilities with Republican France. He died unmarried in 1813, and was succeeded by his brother Beaumont, Lord Hotham, a Baron of the Court of Exchequer, grandfather of the present Lord Hotham, M.P., and of Sir Charles Hotham, the subject of this notice. Sir Charles was the eldest son of the second Lord Hotham's second son, the Rev. Frederick Hotham, Prebendary of Rochester, by his wife, Anne Elizabeth, eldest daughter of T. Hallett Hodges, Esq., of Hemsted-place, Kent. He was born in 1806, and entered the Royal Navy in 1818. Hotham, on the night of the 23rd May, 1824, when midshipman of the *Naad*, took effectual part in the boats at the daring destruction of a sixteen-gun brig moored in a position of extraordinary strength alongside the walls of the fortress of Bona, where was a garrison of about four hundred soldiers, who from cannon and musket kept up a tremendous fire, almost perpendicularly, on the deck. As a reward for his further distinguished conduct on the occasion of the wreck of the *Terror* he was made a Commander in 1828. He obtained an appointment, in 1830, to the *Cordelia*; and returned to the Mediterranean, whence he ultimately came home in October, 1833, having been raised to post rank the preceding June in compliment to the memory of his uncle, Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir H. Hotham. His next command was of the *Gorgon* steam-sloop, on the coast of South America. Having, in 1845, assumed the lead of a small squadron, he ascended the river Parana, in conjunction with a French naval force under Captain Trehouart, and after a hard day's fighting succeeded in effecting the destruction of four heavy batteries belonging to General Rosas at Punta Obligado; also of a schooner of war carrying six guns, and of twenty vessels chained across the river. Towards the close of the action he landed with one hundred and eighty seamen and one hundred and forty-five marines, and accomplished the defeat of 11 enemy, whose numbers had originally consisted of at least 3500 men in cavalry, infantry, and artillery, and whose batteries had mounted twenty-two pieces of ordnance, including ten brass guns. These brass guns were taken off to the ships, the remainder of the ordnance being all destroyed. The loss of the British in this brilliant affair amounted to nine men killed and twenty-four wounded. In acknowledgment of the gallantry, zeal, and ability displayed on this occasion by Captain Hotham, he was nominated a K.B.O. in 1846. Sir C. Hotham, in April, 1852, was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Argentine Confederation; and in Dec., 1853, he was made Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria. Sir Charles married, the 10th December, 1853, Jane Sarah, widow of Hugh Holbeck, Esq., of Farnborough, Warwickshire, and daughter of Samuel, second and present Lord Bridport, who is the great-nephew and successor of the first Baron and Viscount Bridport, the illustrious seaman, Alexander Hood.

SIR HENRY W. W. WYNN.

THE Right Hon. Sir Henry Watkin Williams Wynn, K.C.B., G.C.H., an old diplomatic servant of the Crown, died on the 28th ult., at Llanvolda, one of the family seats in Shropshire. The right hon. gentleman was the third son of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the fourth Baronet, by his second wife, Charlotte, daughter of the Right Hon. George Grenville, and was the brother of the late Sir Watkin W. Wynn and the Right Hon. Charles W. W. Wynn, M.P. He was born in 1783. When quite a youth he was appointed in Jan., 1799, a clerk in the Foreign-office; and in January, 1801, he was made private secretary to Lord Grenville, the then Secretary of State; and in the month following appointed *precis* writer to Lord Hawkesbury, afterwards second Earl of Liverpool. In 1803 Mr. Wynn was appointed Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of the Elector of Saxony; and from February, 1822, to February, 1823, was Minister Plenipotentiary to Switzerland, when he removed to Stuttgart in the same capacity. In September, 1824, he was sent as British Minister to the Court of Denmark, and was made a Privy Councillor. In 1831 he was created a Knight Bachelor, and was nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order. In March, 1851, he was made a Civil Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. Sir Henry Williams Wynn represented the British Crown at Copenhagen from 1824, uninterruptedly, until February, 1853, when he finally relinquished the post, and retired on a pension. Sir Henry married, the 30th September, 1813, Hester Frances Smith, sixth daughter of Robert, Lord Carington, and by her (who died in 1854) he leaves three sons and three daughters: the latter are the Countess Bismark, Mrs. Col. Studholme Brownrigg, and the present Lady Watkin Williams Wynn.

SIR HYDE PARKER, BART.

The death of Sir Hyde Parker, eighth Baronet, of Melford Hall, Suffolk, took place on the 21st ult., at Government-house, Devonport, shortly after his arrival from Lisbon in H.M.S. *St. George*. Sir Hyde, who was born in 1785, was the second son of Sir Harry Parker, the sixth Baronet; and he was the grandson of the Admiral Sir Hyde Parker who defeated the Dutch at the Doggerbank, in 1781, and who, being shortly afterwards appointed to command the naval forces in the East Indies, sailed in the *Cato*, and was never heard of after leaving Rio Janeiro, where he put in for water. Sir Hyde Parker, the eighth Baronet, the subject of this notice, succeeded his eldest brother, Sir William, the seventh Baronet, who died unmarried the 21st April, 1830. Sir Hyde himself, who had been M.P. for West Suffolk, was also never married.

MR. JUSTICE TORRENS.

THE Hon. Robert Torrens, first Puisne Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland, was called to the Irish bar in Michaelmas Term A.D. 1798, and was admitted a bencher of the King's Inns, Dublin, in Trinity Term 1818. He practised as serjeant for many years. He was raised to the Bench in 1823. The learned Judge, it will be remembered, received, a short time ago, addresses from the grand juries of the North-West Circuit expressive of their confidence in his Lordship, and of their admiration of his high judicial abilities. To these addresses his Lordship, together with Chief Baron Pennefather and Chief Justice Levey, returned an answer to the effect that, as long as he felt he was able to discharge his duties to the public in an efficient manner, it was not his intention to tender his resignation. Mr. Justice Torrens died on the 29th ult., at Derrynord Lodge, co. Londonderry, after a few hours' illness.

DEATH OF REAR-ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM SYMONDS, K.C.B.—We regret to hear that Rear-Admiral Sir William Symonds, the late Surveyor of the Navy, died on his passage from Malta to this country.

WILLS AND CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The will of Sir Benjamin Fonseca Outram, K.C.B., of Hanover-square, was proved under £50,000. Thomas Elwell, of Wolverhampton, merchant, £120,000. The Rev. H. B. Donville, M.A., Rector of Pencombe, £18,000. The Venerable J. B. Hollingworth, D.D., Archdeacon of Huntingdon, and Rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury, £3000. W. Duncombe, of Lincoln's-inn-fields, law stationer, £12,000. Lieut.-General James Lindsay, of Genoa, £10,000 personally in England. Yarbrough, Esq., of Sowerby House, Yorkshire, £90,000 personally within the province of Canterbury, and has bequeathed to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and Christianity among the Jews, and the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, Church Bible Society, Church Missionary, York County Hospital, York Blind Asylum, General Infirmary, Kingston-upon-Hull, and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Doncaster, to each £100, and bequests to several other institutions. The wills of the Right Hon. James Gratian, of Wicklow, one of H.M. Honourable Privy Counsellors for Ireland, and of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Bart., of Ross, N.B., have also just been proved in London.



IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The House of Commons reassembled on Monday night for the first time after the Easter recess.

MAINT TAX.—In reply to a question from Mr. Spooner, in the absence of Mr. Mullings, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that, should the additional duty on malt cease on the 5th of July, the usual course would be adopted of allowing the drawback on the stocks in hand.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.—It was anticipated that some question would be asked relative to peace on the motion for going into a Committee of Supply, but the anticipation was not realised. The House went into Committee without any question whatever. Shortly before five o'clock Lord Palmerston entered the House, and was slightly cheered on taking his seat on the Treasury bench. Several votes having been agreed to, including a sum of £195,000 for palaces, parks, and public buildings, on the proposal to vote £91,684 for the maintenance and repair of the Royal parks and pleasure grounds, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved that the vote be reduced by £5000, and Mr. Spooner that it be reduced by £22,140. For the latter amendment 35 members voted, for the whole amount 119.

THE PROCLAMATION OF PEACE.

On the next amendment for reducing the vote by £5000, Colonel FRENCH rose to move that the Chairman should report progress and ask leave to sit again. Ministers had not condescended to state anything with regard to the conclusion of peace, and the Prime Minister did not come down to the House in time to do so. It was not respectful to the House of Commons that they should go into Committee of Supply till after some such statement had been made, and he (Col. French) now brought his motion in order to enable the Prime Minister to make a statement on the subject. He (Colonel French) might be told that the conclusion of peace was already well known by the firing of the guns; but that was no confirmation of the fact, because the guns had been fired for the capture of Sebastopol when that fortress had not been captured at all at the time (Hear hear).

Lord PALMERSTON: I entered the House a few minutes after the usual time for presenting petitions. There were, besides, notices of motion and notices of questions also; and I was as much surprised as any other member could be at finding the House was in Committee at so very unusually early an hour (Hear). If I had been in the House sooner I should have made the statement which I am now prepared to make (Hear), though it is very short, and conveys no information beyond that which the House already possesses. Sir, the House is perfectly aware, from an extra *Gazette* which has been published, that yesterday, at about two o'clock, a treaty of peace was signed at Paris (Hear, hear). The House will have perceived, by the announcement in the *Gazette*, that it was determined by the Congress that the particular conditions of the treaty should not be made public till the ratification has taken place. That is the usual course of proceeding, for very obvious reasons, out of deference to the Powers who are parties to the treaty. At the same time, without going into details of the conditions, there are many of the circumstances which are already known to all the world, because they have been published in every country in Europe. It will be found that the objects for which the war was undertaken have been fully accomplished; and the independence and integrity of the Turkish empire will be secured, as far as human arrangements can effect that purpose. It will be found that the treaty will be honourable to all the contracting parties; and I trust that, while on the one hand it has put an end to a war which every friend of humanity must naturally wish to see concluded, it will on the other lay the foundation of a peace which, I trust, as far as respects those dangers out of which the war began, will be lasting and enduring (Hear). During the negotiations which have led to this peace I am happy to say that the same cordiality which prevailed among the Allies in carrying on the war has most materially contributed to the accomplishing of peace, and that we shall leave off at the termination of this war with a stronger, and closer, and more extended alliance than existed during the continuance of the war; and that, therefore, the future permanence, not only of a good understanding, but of intimate relations, among the great Powers of Europe will be cemented and strengthened by communications passed at these negotiations (Hear). Sir, I have nothing more to say, except this—which it must be gratifying to the country to know—that nothing could exceed the ability with which the British negotiators have performed their arduous and difficult task during these negotiations (Hear, hear)—that Lord Clarendon and Lord Cowley not only maintained the honour, and dignity, and interest of the country they represented, but, by their conciliatory conduct, secured for themselves and their country the respect and good will of those with whom they acted (Hear, hear). The ratifications are to be exchanged as soon as they can be received from Constantinople and St. Petersburg. The limitation of time is four weeks; but I should hope that within three weeks they will be exchanged at Paris (Hear, hear).

Col. FRENCH then withdrew his motion, and the Committee proceeded with the consideration of the Estimates. Several votes were agreed to; after which the House resumed, and the remaining business was disposed of.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

FALL OF KARS.—The Earl of MALMESBURY, referring to the motion of which he had given notice respecting the fall of Kars, inquired as to the progress of diplomatic proceedings in Paris, and the probable date at which the Foreign Secretary might be expected to resume his place in Parliament.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE stated that he had no further information to impart than had been already made public by the daily journals, the official *Gazette*, or the Ministerial announcement in another place. Although the details of the treaty which had been signed would not be published until the ratifications were exchanged, he held himself prepared to answer any inquiries that might be urged on the subject. As many important questions, consequential upon the treaty, remained still for discussion and settlement, it was impossible to say how long Lord Clarendon might be detained in Paris for that purpose.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE DEFECTIVE MORTARS.—Mr. MONSELL stated that some explanatory letters had been received from Messrs. Grissell and Co. respecting the defective mortars supplied by that firm to the Ordnance, and the case had been referred to a competent officer to examine and report thereon.

EXECUTION OF BOUSFIELD.—Sir G. GREY, in replying to Lord W. LENNOX, said that a full explanation touching the occurrence which took place at the execution of William Bousfield, on Monday last, had been required by the Government from the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

THE CRIMEAN INQUIRY.—Lord PALMERSTON, to a question from Mr. LAYARD, replied that the Board of Crimean Inquiry would commence their sittings almost immediately, the delay that had occurred having arisen chiefly from the necessity of arranging certain points of detail. The range which the investigation should take would, he intimated, be left in great measure to the discretion of the officers to whom it was intrusted.

SALARIES OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved an address setting forth an opinion that the salaries of the County Court Judges should be fixed and uniform, and that the rate of such salaries should be £1500 per annum. On the question of principle the hon. and learned member argued that the remuneration of functionaries intrusted with the administration of justice should in amount be sufficient to relieve them from all pecuniary anxieties, as well as to secure and reward the services of competent Judges, and ought at the same time to be fixed by law, and not left to the favour or caprice of the Government. At present he contended the minimum of £1200 a year paid to the majority of the Judges of County Courts was inadequate to remunerate them for the duties they were called upon to discharge, while the maximum of £1500 was a boon for which the judicial functionaries in question were obliged to beg at the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury, who had more than once accorded or withheld the favour under the impulse of political or family influences. After enforcing this assertion by reference to the treatment received by his own brother-in-law at the hands of Mr. Wilson, Mr. Roebuck submitted that the adoption of the plan he had proposed was essential to relieve the County Court Judges from the painful and mortifying position in which they were now too often placed.

The motion was seconded by Lord STANLEY. Sir G. GREY confessed that his own prepossessions had from the first been in favour of assigning fixed and uniform salaries to the County Court Judges. The salaries of these functionaries, he explained, had originally been derived from fees, which were found to accrue with great inequality in the different districts. These were subsequently commuted for settled incomes of £1000 per annum, until, in 1852, Parliament fixed the minimum of £1200 and the maximum of £1500 to their salaries, and assigned to Government the invidious responsibility of determining to which of the sixty Judges the greater or the less income should be awarded. Respecting the present motion, Sir G. Grey observed that the whole subject was dealt with in a bill lately introduced by the Lord Chancellor; and, as the proposed adoption of the existing maximum would involve an augmented charge on the Consolidated Fund, he recommended that no definite resolution should be adopted until that measure came before the House. He concluded by moving the previous question.

Mr. WILSON defended himself from the accusation brought forward by Mr. Roebuck. He entered into a minute detail of particulars to show that the brother-in-law of that hon. member had been treated by the Government in the matter of salary without the slightest reference to the accident of his relationship, or upon any other considerations than those arising from an impartial investigation of the labour and duties which had devolved upon him, as compared with the many other County Court Judges who had also memorialised the Treasury on the same subject.

Sir J. PAKINGTON approved of the principle that the Judges of the

County Courts should receive a fixed and uniform salary, independently of any discretion of the Government. For the amount he considered £1500 per annum not exorbitant.

Sir G. PEACHELL and Mr. MALINS having briefly spoken, Mr. GLADSTONE wished to leave himself and the House unpledged by any result which might accrue upon the immediate question before them as to their opinions touching the salaries to be paid to the County Court Judges. This subject should be left open for a formal discussion hereafter. Adverting to the personal charges adduced by Mr. Roebuck against the Secretary to the Treasury, he expressed his persuasion that they were unfounded, and hoped that they would be withdrawn.

After a few words from Mr. DISRAELI, Mr. ROEBUCK replied, consenting to withdraw his motion.

IRISH AND SCOTCH PAUPERS.—Mr. BOUVIER moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the removal of poor persons, chargeable in England, who have been born in certain other parts of her Majesty's dominions. The measure, he explained, was founded upon the report of a committee appointed to inquire into the Law of Settlement and Removal of Scotch and Irish Paupers who sought relief from English parishes. By the present mode a summary power of extradition was given to the English magistrates in the case of natives of Ireland or Scotland, and the consequent results often proved exceedingly cruel and unjust towards the paupers so removed, and the Irish and Scotch districts upon which they were discharged. In the bill now proposed it was intended to provide that the course pursued towards Irish or Scotch born paupers should be assimilated to that practised with regard to English paupers, so that no removal should be allowed without due notice being given, and sufficient grounds for the step shown by the parish authorities. After some discussion, in which Mr. Williams, Mr. V. Scully, Sir W. Jolliffe, Mr. Baines, and other members took part, leave was given to bring in the bill.

CITY CORPORATION REFORM.—Sir G. GREY begged leave to introduce a Bill for the Reform of the City of London Corporation. This measure was based upon the report of the commissioners; and was designed, as the hon. Secretary declared, not to retrench the authority or the dignity of the Corporation, but to render it practically more fit to exercise the functions which it was designed to fulfil. For this purpose it was proposed to remodel the constitution of the civic assembly of the metropolis according to a scheme which Sir George described in much detail, so as to render it conformable to the general system created by the Municipal Corporations Act, retaining at the same time many of the distinctive features which it at present possessed. The judicial functions intrusted to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were also to be considerably modified, and the anomalous rights enjoyed by them, and which often interfered with the freedom of trade, to be altogether abolished. Among other changes, the conservancy of the Thames would be transferred to a board, of which the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Vice-President of the Board of Trade were to be members. The control of the City Police he intended to leave, as at present, in the hands of the civic corporation; but the criminal jurisdiction of the City Police Courts was to be exercised by stipendiary magistrates appointed upon the same principle as the other members of the metropolitan magistracy. After a few remarks from Sir J. Duke, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Masterman, leave was given to bring in the bill.

A Select Committee was appointed to inquire what temporary laws had lately expired or were about to expire.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER obtained leave to bring in a bill to continue for a further limited period the composition paid to certain bankers who had ceased to issue bank notes.

The report from the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to.

DUTY ON FIRE INSURANCES.—The House having gone into Committee on Fire Insurances, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution, preliminary to the introduction of a bill, by which he proposed to render the incidence of the stamp-duty levied on fire insurance more strict and extensive. His object was to include the policies at present granted at agency offices on behalf of foreign companies, so as to protect the English companies from the unfair competition to which they were now exposed. The motion was agreed to after a short conversation, and leave given to introduce a measure on the subject.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

MEDICAL PROFESSION BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Medical Profession Bill, Lord R. GROSVEHOR said that amendments varying the very principle of the bill had been placed on the paper only on the previous evening, and he, therefore, suggested that the bill should be postponed, in order to give time for their consideration.

Mr. WALPOLE supported the suggestion, and moved that the Committee on the bill be postponed until next Wednesday.

A discussion of some length ensued as to the propriety of postponement. This was followed by a division, which terminated in favour of the amendment by a majority of 116 to 81, the Government voting against Mr. Headlam.

Mr. HEADLAM complained of being thrown overboard by the Government at the last moment, although he had every right to calculate on their support. He thought the Government was in duty bound to take up and proceed with the bill.

Sir G. GREY thought the hon. and learned gentleman had no right to complain. At all events, he must, on the part of the Government, decline to take up the bill.

Mr. WALPOLE hoped Mr. Headlam would not abandon the bill, but assent to have it referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. BRADY thought Mr. Headlam had great reason to complain, for he had every ground to anticipate the support of the Government, which, however, had thrown him and the profession also overboard at the last moment.

Sir J. PAKINGTON commented on the conduct of the Government, which had supported both sides of the question, and voted against the side which they had at first supported.

The amendment to postpone the bill until Wednesday next was then agreed to.

FABRICIES BILL.

On the second reading of the Factories Bill, Colonel W. PATTEN said the object of the bill was to release proprietors of factories from a strict compliance with the letter of the law relating to the fencing of their machinery in all cases where it was substantially complied with.

Mr. CORBETT moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The hon. and learned gentleman contended that the result of the repeal of the existing law would be a large increase of accidents to factory operatives.

Lord J. MANNERS seconded the amendment, and warned the House that this bill was only the first step in that course of retrograde legislation which the Millowners' Association was endeavouring to bring about.

Mr. M. GIBSON supported the second reading of the bill, contending that it was impossible to fence all mill-gearing, and, of course, impossible to comply with the law as recently laid down by the Court of Queen's Bench.

Sir G. GREY said if the existing law could be enforced it should not be interfered with; but it appeared there was not only an uncertainty as to the law itself, but it was also asserted that it was impossible literally to comply with it. It was clear that according to the law as laid down by the Court of Queen's Bench all mill-gearing should be fenced; but it was equally certain that some portions of that gearing could not be fenced. He would not object to the second reading of the bill if Colonel W. Patten would agree that the law should be altered only so far as related to that portion of the mill-gearing which was unlikely to lead to danger if unfenced.

Lord STANLEY said he would, on the part of his hon. and gallant friend, at once agree to the proposed modification.

Mr. HARDY contended that the law upon the subject was clear enough, for it had been settled by the Court of Queen's Bench.

Mr. MUNTZ recommended Mr. Corbett to accept the modification suggested by Sir George Grey.

Mr. CHEETHAM supported the bill.

Mr. BROTHERTON said he entirely agreed in what had fallen from Sir G. Grey, and would therefore support the second reading of the bill.

Colonel DUNNE moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. M. CHAMBERS seconded the motion.

The House then divided on the question of the adjournment, which was negatived by a majority of 198 to 9.

It being now seven minutes to six o'clock, the debate was necessarily adjourned in compliance with the standing orders.

NEW WRITS.—Mr. HAYTER moved a new writ for Athlone, in the room of Mr. Keogh, who has accepted the office of one of her Majesty's Judges in Ireland; also a new writ for Ennis, in the room of Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, who has accepted the office of her Majesty's Attorney-General for Ireland.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY gave notice of his intention, upon the return of the Earl of Clarendon, to move an Address to her Majesty for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the nature of the British Consular Service within the Turkish Empire.

The Delamere Forest Bill, and the Secretary to the Poor-law Commissioners (Ireland) Bill, were severally read a third time and passed.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved for a series of returns in reference to the system of torture practised in the Madras Presidency, in connection with the collection of the Loom-tax.—The Duke of ARGYLL assented to the motion, which was then agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. M'CALL gave notice that, on the 22nd inst., he should call attention to the temporal provision made by law for the support of religious worship in Ireland.

GREECE.—Mr. EWART inquired whether any measures were being adopted to relieve English commerce from the export duties of Greece

which were so much complained of?—Lord PALMERSTON, in reply, said that efforts had been made for that purpose, but without success; and he was afraid there was no present hope of success, as, owing to the administrative incapacity of those who now ruled in Greece, no person's property was safe, except at a distance of three miles from the coast, between Athens and the Piræus, which was patrolled night and day by detachments of French cavalry (Laughter).

THE ARMISTICE.—Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Mitchell, said that the armistice was yesterday extended to the sea as well as to the land; and, consequently, the blockade of Russian ports in the Baltic would cease. He could not, however, say whether British ships could at present enter Russian ports without risk of seizure.

Mr. H. BERKELEY gave notice that on the 22nd inst. he would make his usual motion on the subject of the Ballot.

TRANSPORTATION.

Mr. SCOTT moved for a Select Committee to inquire how far, and in what direction, recent legislation, in substituting other punishments for transportation, had influenced the existing amount of crime. He contended that it had influenced it to a serious extent, and he thought that the whole subject involved in penal servitude and the ticket-of-leave system ought to be thoroughly investigated by Parliament.

Mr. L. DAVIS seconded the motion, believing that the ticket-of-leave system had proved a failure, and that the only means of checking crime, which now kept pace with the increase of population, was to return to transportation to some distant penal colony.

Sir G. GREY moved an amendment to the effect that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the operation of the Act 16 and 17 Vict., cap. 99, intitled "An Act to Substitute in certain Cases other Punishment in lieu of Transportation." The object in view was of a practical character, and ought, therefore, to be specific and defined. He denied that crime had seriously increased since the adoption of the ticket-of-leave system; and declared that the result of the proposed inquiry would show that great exaggeration prevailed in the public mind on this subject.

Sir J. PAKINGTON supported the original motion, considering that it would be unwise to exclude from inquiry the policy of reviving transportation. He was by no means satisfied with the working of the Act of 1855.

Mr. LABOUCHERE defended the measure which abolished transportation, upon the ground of the opposition offered to its continuance by the colonies.

Mr. ADDERLEY urged that inquiry would be premature, but pressed for some definite explanations as to the future intentions of Ministers with regard to tickets of leave, and the disposal of criminals sentenced to secondary punishments. With regard to the increase of crime, the best prevention would be educational and reformatory measures.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. Baines, Mr. Newdegate, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. S. Fitzgerald took part, Sir G. Grey suggested to Mr. Scott the propriety of his withdrawing his motion, and of allowing the amendment to stand as a substantive motion, with the addition of the word "provisions," so that the inquiry would then be one into the provisions and operation of the Act.

Mr. SCOTT having assented, Sir G. Grey's motion, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. MALINS obtained leave to introduce a bill to abolish all distinctions between specialty and simple contract debts.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the Criminal Appropriation of Trust Property held by persons as trustees or bailors. The object of the measure was to make persons guilty of a malappropriation of such property criminally responsible.

Sir J. SHELLEY obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the law with respect to the election of Directors of Joint-Stock Banks in England.

Mr. BOUVIER obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the relief of the poor.

On the motion of Mr. A. PELLATT, the Draughts on Bankers Bill was read a second time.

The Married Women's Reversionary Interest Bill passed through Committee.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE MILITARY BOARD OF INQUIRY.

The board of military officers appointed to inquire into the conduct of those officers inculpated in the report of Sir J. McNeil and Col. Tulloch, commenced their duties on Thursday morning in the great hall, Chelsea.

At half-past eleven o'clock the following general officers forming the board took their seats at the table:—Sir Alex. Woodford (President), Lord Beauchamp, General Rowan, Sir John Bell, General Peel, M.P., General Knollys, and General Sir George Berkeley.

The Judge-Advocate (the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.) read the Royal warrant appointing a Board, and stating the purposes for which it had been constituted; and, next, a letter from Lord Palmerston to Lord Panmure, informing him officially of the appointment of the Commission and the scope and nature of the inquiry.

The Judge-Advocate then read the regulations, which stated that the proceedings of the Board would be conducted, as near as possible, with the practice of ordinary military courts of inquiry. Evidence might be given in writing or orally. The Court was not empowered to examine witnesses on oath. Every military witness would be at liberty to decline making any statement that might afterwards be made the subject of a charge for a court-martial against him, but that having done so it might be used against him. The cases of persons whose conduct had to be inquired into would be taken separately.

The Board, after a short consultation, decided that the Earl of Lucan's case should be taken first, and directed that summonses should be forthwith sent to him and his witnesses, requiring his attendance on Monday next.

The Court will sit daily, after Monday next, from eleven a.m. until four p.m.

MAJOR-GENERAL MACINTOSH, K.H., commanding the troops in the Ionian Islands, has resigned, and will be succeeded in April by Major-General Stanhope, late of the Grenadier Guards.

By a general regimental order, just issued from the Adjutant-General's Office at Woolwich, commanding officers, at home and on foreign stations, are informed that the following books for the use of officers of the Royal Artillery who have not already been supplied therewith can be had on application at the Adjutant-General's Office; and on an officer joining a station, from leave or otherwise, the commanding officer will be pleased to make application for these books, provided they are not in the possession of such officer:—viz., "Carbine Drill," "Dress Regulations," and "Local Standing Orders for the Royal Artillery at Woolwich."

THE news of peace has not resulted in any demonstration of rejoicing, either on the part of the Government authorities or the inhabitants of Woolwich. The general feeling amongst the latter is, that, unless some very good terms have been made, the war should have continued another year. It is expected that, after the ratification of the treaty, an order from the War-office will arrive for a grand display of fireworks in the Royal Arsenal marshes. The *Plymouth Mail* says the advent of peace will not be followed by any immediate reduction in our military forces. As far as the Navy is concerned the paying off will be confined almost exclusively to ships which have overrun or completed the usual period of commission. The several divisions of gun-boats will be maintained and stationed in the ports assigned them, where they will be "drilled" as frequently as circumstances will admit. The forces on the several naval stations reduced at the outbreak of war will be now again increased. It is also said that each of the principal ports will have stationed at it four effective screw line-of-battle-ships, instead of the present guard-ships. It is probable the *James Watt* and *Exmouth* will be two of the four allotted to this port (Plymouth). The number of men entered for continuous service, we understand, now amounts to 37,000, to find employment for whom, with the boys (apprentices), will necessarily require the Admiralty to keep a good number of ships in commission.

ORDERS have been issued to recruiting parties to enlist men in future not less than five feet five in height, instead of five feet four. The standard for the household brigade of infantry has been raised to five feet eight inches.

THE fleet now collected at Spithead, in Portsmouth harbour, and at the Motherbank exceeds by far the whole Baltic fleet of 1854; and by the 16th there are expected as many ships as would equal, if not exceed, the force of both the Black Sea and Baltic fleets of that year.

ORDERS have been received from the Admiralty, by the authorities at Woolwich and Deptford dockyards, to the effect that all the gun-boats now in hand must be completed before the 15th of April, in order to form part of the fleet at Spithead which will be reviewed by her Majesty.

A GOVERNMENT contract has been entered into by Messrs. Lucas Brothers for the erection of a new cannon-foundry and boring-mill on the site between the two foundries already in progress in the Arsenal grounds at Woolwich. The extreme length of the frontage, which is to be flanked by two wings, running north and south, will be 360 feet. In addition to these works Messrs. Lucas are engaged in raising some other very extensive buildings at Woolwich. The paper factory is nearly complete. Portions of the machinery to be employed there are daily arriving from the firm of Messrs. Fairbairn, of Leeds. Macintosh's patent engine for the preparation of the pulp bags used in the manufacture of cartridges has been likewise received. The shell-foundry and laboratory saw-mills are also proceeding rapidly towards completion. The whole line of wharfrage fronting the storehouses is being renewed and considerably strengthened with immense blocks of stone shipped from the Portland quarries.

MUSIC.

14. B takes K Rt Q takes B 28. Q to K 2nd K to K 2nd
And the game terminated by agreement in a drawn battle.

THE HON. G. M. DALLAS, THE NEW AMERICAN MINISTER.

THE HON. GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, the successor of Mr. Buchanan, as United States' Minister at the Court of St. James's, arrived at Liverpool by the steamer *Atlantic* on Thursday, the 13th ult. During his stay in Liverpool he has had a foretaste of the fraternal welcome which England eagerly extends to the Ambassador of the United States, coming among us at a moment of grave controversy between the two Governments. Immediately after his arrival at the hotel at Liverpool, the American Chamber of Commerce, consisting of merchants in the Transatlantic trade, waited upon him by a deputation to express congratulations and to declare a significant desire "to co-operate with his Excellency in all measures tending to promote the common interests of commerce, and to strengthen the bonds of amity so long happily existing between the two countries." In his reply Mr. Dallas said that he was confident "that the causes of difference which now existed between the two countries could soon be amicably arranged, as in his opinion they were not of such a serious character as would or ought to lead to any disturbance of the relationship subsisting between the United States and Great Britain."

Mr. Dallas is one of the most distinguished of the public men of the United States. For some years he has lived in retirement in his native city, Philadelphia, and his name is not familiar; but from 1812 to 1849 he was active and prominent as statesman and diplomatist; in his latter capacity having been before a resident in England, and during that residence (in 1813-14) having likewise been engaged in the business on which he has now come—that of peacemaker. Elected by the Democratic party, with which he has always been identified, he was Vice-President of the United States from 1844 to 1849.

His father, Alexander Dallas, was an eminent lawyer, and was also an active politician, having, under Madison, reached the office of Secretary to the Treasury. George Dallas was born in 1792, graduated with high honours at Princeton College, studied law in his father's office, and was admitted to the bar in 1813. But he did not practise for some years. Mr. Gallatin, who was a member of the commission to negotiate the peace in 1813, under the mediation of the Emperor Alexander, selected him as his private secretary; and in that capacity Mr. Dallas was for a long period at St. Petersburg, and subsequently in London, we believe, as Secretary of Legation. On his return to the United States, after the great European settlement in 1815, he devoted himself to his profession, and in a few years won a high position as a criminal lawyer. In 1825 he was Mayor of Philadelphia, and in General Jackson's Presidency was appointed District Attorney, which post he held till 1831. In that year he was elected a member of the Senate for Pennsylvania, and acquired a strong position in that Assembly. In 1837 he returned again to diplomacy, being selected by Mr. Van Buren as Ambassador to Russia, where he remained for two years. In 1844 he became Vice-President, and when he was succeeded by Mr. Fillmore (subsequently President) he abandoned public affairs, and lived the life of a very quiet citizen. In emerging now from his retirement he may be supposed to have been influenced by a strong sense of duty. The greatest confidence is placed in him by his countrymen; and, as a man of high position, great experience, and great polish, he is admirably qualified for the work he has undertaken in London.

Mr. Dallas's father was Alexander James Dallas, a native of Ireland, who emigrated in early life to the United States. His family is very highly connected, and has from time to time been brought into prominent notice by the literary and scientific talents of its members. Sir George Dallas, whose political writings were so highly appreciated by William Pitt, and his brother, Sir Robert Dallas, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, were its most distinguished ornaments. Miss Dallas, the Minister's aunt, married Captain Byron, of the English Navy, and was mother of the present and seventh Lord Byron. His eldest brother rose to the rank of Commodore in the American Navy, and his youngest was the late Judge Dallas, of Pittsburg.

THE LORD MAYOR'S DINNER TO MR. BUCHANAN.—A PACIFIC PROPOSAL.

(From the *New York Herald*, March 19.)

THE Lord Mayor of London invited a select circle of leading commercial men (a most significant token) on the 27th ult., to meet Mr. Buchanan, and to testify to him, and through him to the American people, the cordial friendship of the British people. It was unfortunate, indeed, that Mr. Buchanan was invited also by the Queen, on the same day, and was com-

pelled by respect to her Majesty, as the chief of the nation as well as by courtesy, to decline the Lord Mayor's reception. These demonstrations have suggested a plan for settling our dispute with Great Britain, and we lose no time in laying it before the Cabinets of London and Washington.

It is tolerably clear that the Central American controversy will be permitted to remain precisely where it is—both parties adhering to their construction of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. Meanwhile, the matter in dispute is really no concern of England or the United States.

Lord Clarendon has proposed to Mr. Marcy that the differences between the two Governments shall be referred to the decision of a friendly Power, and thus the case stands, and so it is likely to remain. It is not probable that the Washington Cabinet will consent to arbitration, and it is even more unlikely that England will yield to our pretensions. The dispute thus will become chronic, and be permitted, in the hands of politicians on both sides of the water, to disturb the commerce and the industry of the two nations. Neither party is likely to take the initiative of war, and indeed it is not easy to see how it can be made the subject of such an issue in the face of the events occurring in Central America under our own auspices.

Meanwhile business of every kind will continue to be conducted by the people of the United States and her Majesty's subjects just as usual. We shall produce and send forward our cotton, rice, wheat, flour, corn, beef, pork, and lard; and we shall receive in return the products of British manufactures, just as we have done for the last twenty years. We shall, too, welcome to our shores great numbers of emigrants from her Majesty's dominions, and they will become citizen producers, good democrats, and faithful adherents of our political and social institutions. We shall advance our frontier limits at the rate of twenty-five miles every year; and our enterprise, overleaping the federal boundaries, will appear here and there, even in Central America.

While these are certain to be practical results on this side of the water,

we are equally ready to concede that her Majesty's subjects will be exceedingly active and fruitful of good works on the other side. Against the success of British industry and the well-being of the people of that country we have never had, and never expect to have, reason to complain. We rejoice in their triumphs, and freely and gratefully acknowledge the benefits they have conferred upon us. The two industrial nations, united in the bonds of reciprocal trade, have secured vast good to the human family, and if they are permitted to continue their works they will clearly prove that their beneficent service has but just commenced. It is very remarkable, too, that they are, and ever have been, fast friends, ready to promote the common good by acts of honourable rivalry and emulation.

Now, we propose to the Cabinets of London and Washington a reference of the Central American difficulty to the decision of the people of England and the people of the United States. By the theory of the British and federal constitution, the subject matter in dispute distinctly appertains to them. They are the only parties in actual interest—the only parties to be affected by the decision one way or the other.

Central America is governed by small nationalities, recognised as independent States by all the world. Neither John Bull nor Brother Jonathan has any business there. Let the people of England, then, and of the United States, be free to make terms with the Central American Governments for occupation and citizenship. It is for the latter to fix these conditions, and for the former to determine the advantages and disadvantages thereof, and to govern themselves accordingly. Should they be induced to become inhabitants of that country, it may be counted on as certain that they will greatly improve it in industry and government. The people of England and the United States have one satisfaction in consulting the careers of their voluntary industry: they have never failed to advance the cause of civilisation, social excellence, political equality, and justice.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S DISPATCH GUN-BOAT "VIGILANT" AT BLACKWALL.

IN last week's Number of this Journal we gave an illustration of the *Wanderer*, the first complete vessel of a new class of dispatch gun-boats which have been lately constructed by eminent ship-building firms in the Thames, from designs furnished by the Surveyor of the Navy, Sir Baldwin Walker.

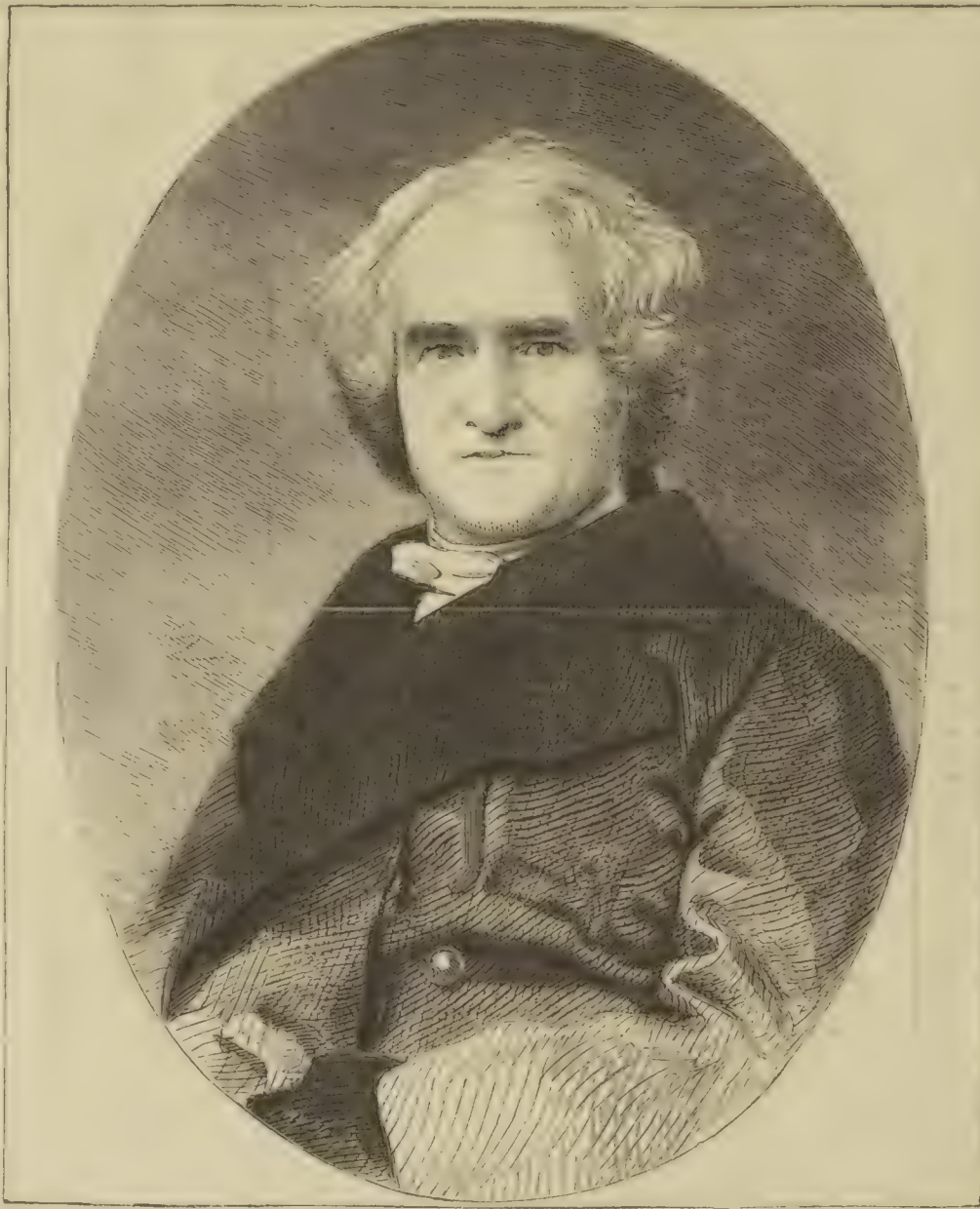
These vessels—the most elegant and beautiful specimens of fighting-ships that have ever appeared in our Navy—reflect the greatest credit on all concerned in their build and equipment. They are being fast completed at the different dockyards, and by the time of the contemplated review of the fleet by her Majesty many of them will have joined the flotilla of gun-boats at the Motherbank.

These vessels are of two classes, differing in size from each other by about 150 tons. The vessel, whose launch at Messrs. Mare and Co.'s, on the 20th ult., we have illustrated this week, is of the second class, of 670 tons burden, 180 feet in length, 28 feet beam, 14 feet depth of hold, and will be propelled by engines of 200-horse power. The occurrence was of a most interesting character: three iron mortar-boats had been launched in the Lea by the same firm a few minutes before; and immediately after the launch of the *Vigilant*, which was named by Miss Armytage, the sister of the gentleman who will command her, the company present were conducted to another part of Messrs. Mare's immense building-yard, to witness the launch of the *Alacrity*, a sister vessel. In a period of fifteen minutes the five vessels were successfully afloat, the attendance of visitors was very numerous, and the whole affair gave the greatest satisfaction.

The expedition displayed in forwarding the iron mortar-boats reflects the greatest credit on Messrs. Westwood and Baillie, the managing representatives on the works for the assignees, as also for the very able and efficient manner in which they have conducted the business of this extensive establishment, now giving employment to over 3000 persons.

On the 5th of April will be launched from the same yard a large iron screw-steamer, the *Genova*, of 2000 tons burden, being built for the Genoese and Transatlantic Steam Packet Company, accompanied by six other iron mortar-boats, and an iron paddle-boat for the South-Western Railway Company, to be named the *Harve*.

The *Genova* is at present so far advanced towards completion that an excellent idea can be formed of her. She is a perfect model of beauty and naval architecture, both in finish and mould, her lines being laid down with great care and judgment, and she promises great speed. The *Genova* will be followed by the *Torino*, also 2000 tons burden; and sister ships to the *Victor Emmanuel* and the *Count di Cavour*, recently built by Messrs. Mare and Co., for his Sardinian Majesty. The gun-boats, and twelve remaining vessels, will be launched from the same yard in the course of three weeks.



THE NEW AMERICAN MINISTER, THE HON. G. M. DALLAS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



LAUNCH OF H.M. DISPATCH GUN-BOAT "VIGILANT," AT MESSRS. MARE AND CO.'S, BLACKWALL.

THE NEW ORGAN FOR THE ABBEY CHURCH, SHERBORNE.

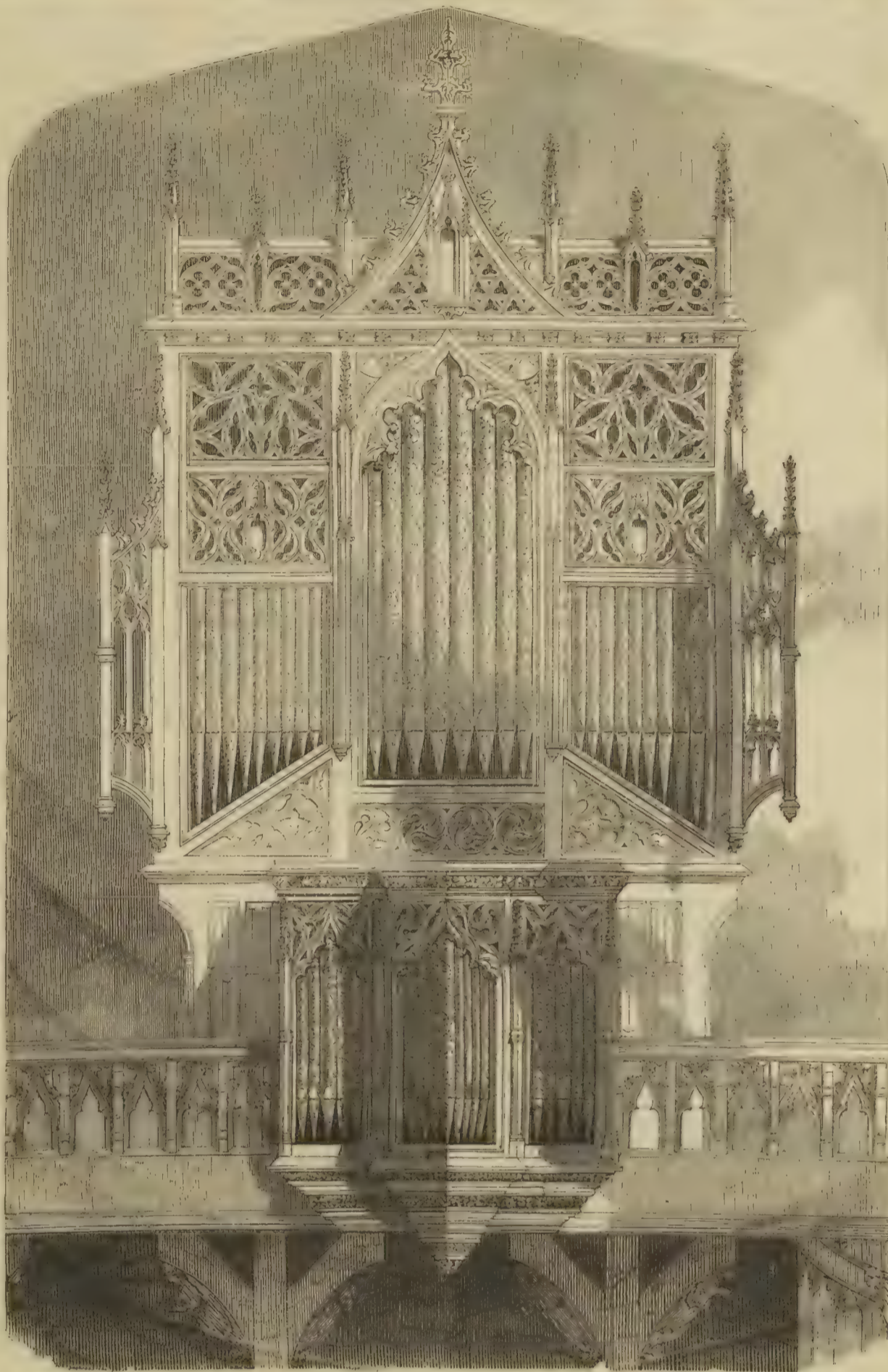
THE combined ceremonies of the opening of the splendid instrument just completed by Messrs. Gray and Davison, and the laying of the foundation-stone of the new Church Schools, attracted an immense concourse of persons on Wednesday, the 26th ult., from many parts of Dorsetshire and the adjacent county. At the commencement of the service every seat was occupied; and nearly two thousand persons must have been within the building. The clergy attended in large numbers. Amongst them were the Hon. and Rev. A. Byron, the Hon. and Rev. W. H. Scott, the Rev. Prebendary Grant, the Rev. Prebendary J. S. Coles, the Rev. Dr. Symonds, the Rev. Messrs. Buttermare, Blennerhassett, Messiter, Wickens, Healr, Phabyn, Allford, Lane, Lagden, Horton, Braucker, Magnay, &c.

Full cathedral service was performed. The Hon. and Rev. A. Byron intoned the prayers; the Hon. and Rev. W. H. Scott and the Rev. G. W. Horton read the lessons; the Revs. Robert Grant and — Buttermare officiated at the Communion; and the Rev. Ewd. Harston, the Vicar, preached an appropriate sermon from the 4th chapter of Ephesians, 4th verse—"There is one body and one spirit." At the conclusion of service, which lasted two hours and three-quarters, a collection was made, amounting to £51 17s. The musical services were performed by the members of the Salisbury Cathedral Choir, Mr. Richardson presiding at the organ. The services were—"Venite," Gregorian; "Te Deum" and "Jubilate," Clark in F; Psalms, Fitzherbert in G (double); Anthem, Quartet, "Plead Thou my cause," and chorus, "I will give thanks," Mozart. This was very beautifully sung; and in the concluding voluntary Mr. Richardson brought out the capabilities of the grand instrument with considerable effect.

The afternoon services were performed by the church choir; Mr. Morgan, the new organist, presiding. The preacher was the Rev. H. D. Harper. The afternoon's collection was £14 3s.

The Organ is inclosed in a very handsome carved oak case, designed by the late Mr. R. C. Carpenter, the architect, engaged upon the restoration of the church. It is in keeping with the chief architectural features of the building. Projecting from the gallery is the choir organ, which, though considered as a part of the organ, is an organ *per se*, being placed in its own case in front of the great organ, and being separated from it by a space in which the organist sits. This organ rests upon a beautifully-carved oak plinth and finial; and, jutting out from the gallery, like an oriel, it forms a most pleasing embellishment, relieving the chief erection of the flatness which gives to large organs, in spite of their front pipes, the appearance of gigantic ornamental cupboards. The pipes are white and gold, and vermilion and gold, alternated; in the larger organ they are green and gold, and white and gold, alternated; the diapering, which is handsome and appropriate, was designed by Mr. W. Slater (Mr. Carpenter's successor). Standing in a gallery, supported by carved oak pillars, the instrument has a magnificent appearance; and, when age has darkened and enriched the oak around it, it will be hand-omer than it is even now in all its newness. In its position it is a splendid ornament in front of an unsightly wall; whilst it harmonises with and balances the gorgeous stained window in the chapel in the opposite transept.

This instrument, though spoken of as an organ, is in truth an elaborate combination of instruments, comprehending no less than four distinct



NEW ORGAN IN THE RESTORED ABBEY CHURCH, SHERBORNE, DORSET.

organs—the choir organ (of which we have just spoken), the great organ, the pedal organ, and the swell organ. It possesses a movement called the tremulant, which is copied from the Madeleine at Paris. This consists of a valved exhaust-box, attached to the wind-trunk of the swell, which,

in working, occasions a rapid exhaustion of air, producing a tremulous movement from which its name is derived. With these appliances, in addition to the ordinary resources of a first-rate organ, it may be easily conceived that immense powers are placed within the reach of an accomplished player to pass with instant rapidity from the most stirring, sonorous, and lofty peals, to notes the most plaintive, trembling, and pathetic. The swell is powerful and brilliant; the increasing pressure is applied to the stops of the great organ. From middle C sharp upwards the wind is half an inch heavier than on the lower octaves, and its importance is manifest by the remarkably fine tone preserved throughout the passage of this manual. The choir is a gem throughout; it is long since we have heard anything to approach the exquisite grace and purity of the dulciana, the gamba, the gemshorn, and metal flute. The instrument has three manuals from C C to F, and possesses the following stops:—Great Organ—quintaton bass and double dulciana, 16 feet; open diapason, 8 feet; prepared for No. 2, 8 feet; stop diapason bass, 8 feet; clarionet flute treble, 8 feet; octave, 4 feet; twelfth, 3 feet; super-octave, 2 feet; sesquialtra, 3 ranks; mixture, 2 ranks; posaune, 8 feet; clarion, 4 feet. Choir Organ—Gamba, 8 feet; salcional, 8 feet; stopped diapason bass, 8 feet; clarionet flute treble, 8 feet; gemshorn, 4 feet; flute, 4 feet; super-octave, 2 feet; piccolo, 2 feet; cremona, 8 feet. Swell Organ—Bourdon, 16 feet; open diapason, 8 feet; keraulophon, 8 feet; stopped diapason, 8 feet; octave, 4 feet; super-octave, 2 feet; sesquialtra, 3 ranks; prepared for contra fagotto, 16 feet; cornopean, 8 feet; oboe, 8 feet; clarion, 4 feet; tremulant, as in the Madeleine at Paris. Pedal Organ—Open diapason, 16 feet; bourdon, 16 feet; octave (metal), 8 feet; super-octave (ditto), 4 feet; trombone (ditto), 16 feet. Couplers—Great manual, to pedals; choir manual, to pedals; swell manual, to choir; swell to great organ (unison); swell to ditto (super-octave). All the mechanism of the interior is remarkable for simplicity.

This substantial addition to the attractions of this splendid church will cost upwards of 1000 guineas, and three and a half years have elapsed since the idea of it was first originated.

The Abbey Church of St. Mary, Sherborne, is mainly in the Perpendicular style, the tower arches being Norman, of very bold and massive character. The four windows in the north aisle are in the Decorated style; the rest in Perpendicular.

The roof, which is of groined stone throughout (with the exception of that in the south transept, which is of oak), presents a very fine specimen of fan vaulting, the bosses and capitals being richly carved and illuminated with various colours.

The stained glass is by Hardman; subjects—west window, the Kings and Prophets of the Old Testament; north windows, the Twelve Apostles; large window in the south transept, the Te Deum. This last window is one of exquisite beauty of colouring, from the designs of the late Mr. A. W. Pugin.

The fabric, and especially the tower piers and roofs, having become seriously dilapidated, the restoration was undertaken by the parish in 1848—part of the money having been raised by rate, the remainder given by Lord Digby and a numerous body of subscribers, both in the parish, the neighbourhood, and the county, as well as by an appeal to those friends at a distance.

The nave and transepts have been completely restored, at an expense of nearly £14,000. The choir (the rents of the roof of which present a frightful spectacle) yet remains to be done.

EXTRAORDINARY WATERSPOUT.

(From a Correspondent.)

I SEND you a sketch of a phenomenon seen on our recent outward passage to Malta, of which the following is a brief account:—Lat. 37 14 N.; long. 8 40 E.; March 2. The weather was just what one may expect in the Mediterranean at this time of year—the sea smooth, the sky cloudless, and the atmosphere calm. At one p.m. a large spreading cloud arose in the north-east, sprinkling a few drops of rain in passing, and then, gradually contracting, it settled low down in the horizon astern. The two centre waterspouts (of enormous size) formed first, the others followed in rapid succession, and in five minutes no fewer than ten were distinctly visible at the same time, and proceeding from the same cloud. Their distance from us was six miles. They were visible a quarter of an hour, and then passed away to the south-west, two of them bursting on the land. The island to the right in the sketch is Galita, and the point of land to the left, C. Senat, Africa. The base of the cloud was very dark, gradually shaded off towards the top.

HARRY CAIGER.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE Doncaster Meeting was rather below its usual mark, although the struggles for its two great races were uncommonly severe and close. Eighteen out of the sixty-four "Young Hopefuls" came to the post; and, after half an hour had been cut to waste by false starts, the four first finished within a space of little more than half a length. There was a still closer finish between four for this race in 1853; and the natural inference is that the form of the whole field is not very high. John Osborne won the £395 in this instance with Saunterer; and as his Augury—who is the very image of old Maid of Masham—ran remarkably well at Catterick, when she was far from fit, the luck of Ashgill seems to be reviving. The notorious Graculus Esuriens achieved his maiden race; and a daughter of Inheritress, who has not been very lucky at the stud so far, was also among the winners. Mr. Morris's stable kept up their charter over this their favourite ground, as Cossey repeated his last year's performance in the Handicap, although he only pulled through by a head from Bracken. Gamekeeper finished third, which makes Hospodar's running with him at 21 lb. at Catterick a better performance than it was thought at the time, as the easy overthrow of his Lordship's Young Skirmisher at that meeting is the greatest disappointment the Yorkshiremen have had this season; but Sharpshooter and two other Voltigeurs are still to make their essay in the "red spots." It is rather an odd coincidence that the first of the Young Dutchmen that ever ran had also to content itself with a fifth place.

Croxton Park—which is the conventional wind-up of the Belvoir, Cottesmore, and Quorn seasons—comes off on Tuesday and Wednesday, and has a very fair list, though the Farmers' Plate entry is painfully poor. Matilda is in the Two-year-old Stakes, and Tilly in the Belvoir Castle Stakes; and, if his owner (who is said to have been forestalled in the betting for the City and Suburban) scratches Fisherman at Epsom, she will have to meet him here with his 7 lb. allowance. The licensed victuallers will have a strong day's racing at Epsom on Thursday. The Two-year-old Stakes has thirty-five subscribers; and Jessie, sister to Adine, and very nice-looking in her yearling days, is among the "dark" ones. Forty-one out of seventy-nine have accepted for the Great Metropolitan, in which Mischap (7 st. 4 lb.) is capitally in, and Cannobie a great favourite; and at least nine or ten, including Fisherman (5 st. 9 lb.), are very favourably weighted among the fifty-five in the City and Suburban Handicap. The steeplechases of the week will be "legion," and comprise five at Birmingham, on Monday; three at Pembroke, on Tuesday; two at Tanfield, on Wednesday; and two at Horncastle, and three at Kilmarnock, on Thursday. The Irish ones consist of four at Skerries, on Monday; three at Boyle, on Thursday; and nine at the Kildare Hunt, on Thursday and Friday.

The rumours of retirements among masters of hounds are becoming very rife, and the honour does not seem nearly so much coveted as of yore. Lord Hopetoun will, it is said, give up the Pytcheley, and bring his hunters (the sixty-five couples of hounds belong to the hunt) to Tattersall's in May; and Lord H. Thynne retires from the Blackmore Vale and Major Douglas from the Forfar and Kincardineshire countries. On the other hand, it is said that Mr. T. Phillips will hunt the Craven; and although a noble Duke declines to protect the foxes on his broad acres, which number 10,000 in the very heart of the Bedale country, Mr. Ernest Duncombe will probably be enabled to put the hunt on its legs again, although its old supporters have been sadly lukewarm. The late Bedale pack, along with twenty couples purchased at the late Sir I. Sutton's sale, and ten couple of unentered hounds from Lord Fitzhardinge's kennel, will, we hear, principally compose the packs, with which Earl Stamford will enter on the Quorn country next autumn. Lord Fitzhardinge's hounds have had especially good sport this year in the Berkeley country, and up to the middle of March they had killed fifty-three and a half brace of foxes. It is rather a remarkable fact that out of fifty brace of the above, at the death of which the huntsman was up, thirty-three brace were dog-foxes, and only seventeen brace vixens.

The reports from the stables of many of the Derby nags are the reverse of flattering, albeit many Newmarket men are still very sweet on their Verdant Green, who will, it is rumoured, make his maiden appearance in the Rowley Mile Plate at the ensuing Craven meeting. Fly-by-Night's position strengthens, but his shoulder is described as thick at the point, and his whole frame still "the cob." Wentworth's legs, like Polmoodie's and West Langton's, are sadly under suspicion, and he is said to be growing, in emulation of Vandermeulen, to the height of a dromedary. Bird-in-hand was heavily laid against for the Two Thousand, at Doncaster, and many good judges know that he will never see either that or the Derby post, and that he has been twice lame since Christmas. All reports must, however, be received with the greatest caution; but, although it is thought that the breaking of his stable at Middleham was little more than an old wife's story, hardly any one has a stone to throw at the Derby pretensions of Ellington, which are of no mean order. Still no horse is regarded with any great amount of confidence, and there has seldom been, to all present seeming, a more open Derby.

The weather is still too cold to tempt the boating-men and cricketers out in any great force; and we know at present of no rowing match except that between Cannon and Watkins, for £30 a side, on Tuesday, from Woolwich to Limehouse. Box has now the care of the Brighton ground, and Dr. Diver and John Lillywhite have the Rugboan eleven in charge; while Winchester has engaged Caffyn; Cheltenham, James Lillywhite; Marlborough, Dean; and Haileybury, Lockyer.

RATAPLAN AND IRONSIDES.—Sir, in your paper of Saturday, March 22, under the heading "National Sports," you speak of a mare "Ironside" as having walked a certain distance in such a time. This, I think, is wrong. In *Bell's Life* of Saturday, or rather Sunday last, the same thing is noticed, with this exception, that "Ironside" is a name given to a noted PEDESTRIAN, and not a mare.—I am, &c., W. H. B. [Note.—The mistake occurred through an error of the press: our reporter wrote "man" and not "mare."

DONCASTER SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Dresser, 1. Bird in the Bush, 2.
Municipal Stakes.—Inheritress f., 1. Miss Allen, 2.
Cheslerfield Plate.—Omer Pacha, 1. Graculus Esuriens, 2.
Hopeful Stakes.—Saunterer, 1. Magnifier, 2.
Sheffield and Rotherham Plate.—Graculus Esuriens, 1. Plausible, 2.
Badsworth Hunt Cup.—Venture, 1. Life Preserver, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Scurry Stakes.—Ariel, 1. Weathercock, 2.
Doncaster Handicap Stakes.—Cossey, 1. Bracken, 2.
Juvenile Selling Stakes.—Adamas, 1. Sebastopol, 2.
Innkeepers' Stakes.—Inheritress f., 1. Victory, 2.
Betting-room Stakes.—Saunterer walked over.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—4 to 1 agst Fisherman (1); 6 to 1 agst St. Hubert (1).
METROPOLITAN.—5 to 2 agst Cannobie (1); 10 to 1 agst Middleton (1); 10 to 1 agst The Earl (1).
CHESTER CUP.—33 to 1 agst Scythian (1); 40 to 1 agst Capucine (1).
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—2 to 1 agst Fly-by-Night (1); 2 to 1 agst Yellow Jack (1); 11 to 1 agst Enchanter (1); 10 to 1 agst Bar Two (1).
DERBY.—7 to 1 on the field (1); 1000 to 30 agst Cannobie (wanted); 50 to 1 agst Enchanter; 100 to 1 agst skyscraper (1).

RAILWAYS IN RUSSIA.—The hopes of approaching peace, which continue to increase here, have given a surprising stimulus to business; but the bad state of our internal means of communication is every day more and more seriously felt by the commercial and manufacturing world. A single line of railway, well constructed, would render more service than the millions of carts drawn by oxen which annually traverse our dreary plains, leaving one-half of their loads behind them. Unfortunately, with the exception of the railway from the Prussian frontier, the rapid completion of which has been ordered, the only one for which surveys have been commenced by Government is that which will go from Moscow to Odessa, passing through the rich districts of Orel, Tula, Kursk, &c. When companies shall have been formed for the establishment of other lines, they will, it is said, be also bound to render the Dvina and the Dnieper navigable.—*Letter from St. Petersburg, March 18.*

THE TREE OF PEACE.

FAST by the Thracian Bosphorus, within an Eastern glade,
Dying, a Christian warrior slept beneath an olive's shade;
His latest cup of glory drained, his last of battles won,
Small space away his dropped sword lay, lit by the Moslem sun.

Sudden, a wild tumultuous shout resounded fast and far,
And a pining clang of arms rang out, which spoke not of the war:
Burst on his soul that trumpet-roll:—half rose he from his rest;
And Death took pause a little while to mark his heaving breast.

Not to his gleaming sword he looked; no martial impulse stirred
The passing spirit of the brave; but, Peace, thy magic word!
And, turning to his own loved West, where low the sunbeams lay,
His dying voice in joy he poured upon the dying day:—

"Silence yon brazen trumpet! Call my children to my knee,
And let me feel the winds that steal along the olive-tree:
It is the same blest tree of Peace round which the breezes curled
When rose its form above the storm that wrecked our ancient world.

"Sound not one note! the trumpet's throat that summoned to the fray
Shall never wake rock, hill, or brake, to hail the better day:
The God-sent pledge of Peace of old, the ripe green bough of love,
Never the croaking raven bore,—its herald was the dove.

"To weeping nations lift the cry of this redeeming birth:
Let lisping babes proclaim it round to all the listening earth.
The cannon's roar shall burst no more through Stamboul's Golden Horn:
But voices soft shall sound aloft—'This day a Peace is born!'

"O, gracious Tree! O, living Tree! that budded on the Mount
Where stood of man the sacrifice—of Peace the source and fount;
Shower gently down thy sunny crown of leaves on each dear head,
Powed humbly 'neath thine ancient boughs to hail the blessing shed!

"Come lither in your beauty, O beloved of my heart—
Ye 'olive branches' of my soul stern war would rend apart!
The vital trunk that gave ye birth to spread its roots shall cease,
But ye shall flourish greenly still, and bear the fruits of Peace.

"My course is run—my day is done; but of this Peace, I ween,
These actions fair shall nobly dare to keep the memory green:
What heed I though the mists of death are gathering in mine eye—
For this I fought, for this I bled, for this I gladly die!"

E. L. HERVEY.

CITY STATUES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

IN your paper of the 29th instant you pay me the compliment of saying I had the lion's share in inducing corporate sympathies in favour of art, more especially as regards the commissions given for the decoration of the Egyptian Hall with statues by modern sculptors. This is an error. I only co-operated with others, whose combined efforts resulted in the accomplishment of a most desirable object. The "lion's share" is due to Mr. Bunning, the City architect, whose ceaseless anxiety has been to make the City worthy the metropolis of the empire; and, if the authorities would exercise a little self-denial in creature comforts, a thousand or two pounds per annum might be saved and expended in paintings for the adornment of the fine vestibule and other rooms of the Mansion-house.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

City, March 31.

FRANCIS BENNOCH.

MORMON TESTIMONIALS.—Two elegant gold watches, value eighty guineas each, made by Benson, of Ludgate-hill, have just been presented to two leading Mormon ministers. The cases of the watches are richly engraved with devices, in which figure a beehive and eagle, and the British national emblems. The watches bear these inscriptions:—1. "To President Franklin D. Richards, with the obedient love of the Elders under his presidency in Europe. Sheffield, Nov. 25, 1855."—2. "To the Hon. George A. Smith, from his Brethren in the Ministry in Europe."

THE PEACE TREATY PEN.—The pen with which the treaty of peace was signed was made from a quill taken from the wing of an eagle at the Jardin des Plantes. Immediately after the signature it was placed on a white sheet of paper and surrounded by the seal of each of the Powers represented at the Congress and by the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries. At the bottom M. Feuilleto de Conches, Chef de Bureau du Protocol, wrote—"I certify that this pen was taken by me from the Imperial eagle at the Jardin des Plantes, and that it served for the signature of the treaty of peace of the 31st March, 1856." The whole was then placed in a gilt frame and a glass fixed over it, to be presented to the Empress.

FRATERNISATION AT TRAKIR-BRIDGE.—Riding along our own side (the left bank) we got ahead of the Cossacks, and conversing, group by group, with the Russians more to the right, picked up some pocket-knives, on most of which a small body of the Czar's troops was depicted as routing thousands of infidel Turks. In addition to kerchiefs, we also obtained purses, pipes, cakes, and other odds and ends, some of them curious enough. One Cossack threw over his sword! During the recent conference at Trakir-bridge a Russian lady, said to be a daughter of General Liders, was present for a very short time in a landau drawn by four grey ponies, and escorted by a Greek guard. No ladies were among the Russians on Sunday. By-the-by, I then observed very many killed Greeks among the Russians. They were surly, and would scarcely exchange a word with the Allies. Opposite the Russian side of the Inkerman Valley stands a fine group of trees, shading a basin of water but a foot deep, which it is necessary to wade in order to reach the real left bank of the Tchernaya. Here the scene on Sunday was most exciting. On the right bank stood a Russian priest in full costume, and half a dozen officers on horseback. One of them spoke fluently English, French, and German, and all spoke French. The conversation was carried on, on both sides, as if the speakers had been firm friends "for forty years." Seeing the fraternisation among the officers, the men on both sides, Russians and Allies, stripped off their boots and stockings, and crossed the river at all points where not too deep. Soon, on the English side, Russians, Sardinians, French, and Scotch, were seen dancing reels together, and whooping and yelling and laughing, and enjoying themselves as if such battles as Inkerman and Alma had never occurred, and were but myths.—*Letter from the Camp.*

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE tone of the Consol Market has been precisely as we have long since anticipated. The certain prospects of peace induced jobbers to speculate upon a higher range of value during the two previous weeks, until prices advanced to a point beyond which, in the existing state of the Money Market, it would appear unsafe to operate. The proclamation of peace, therefore, has had very little effect on the market. No transactions of magnitude have taken place in it, and the improvement in the quotations has been only about one-half per cent.

There has been a very active demand for money, chiefly to meet engagements falling due on the 4th, and the Bank rate of interest remains unchanged. In Lombard-street discounts are difficult to obtain, except upon first-class paper, and that at 5½ to 6½ per cent, short dated. The impression, however, is that we shall shortly have money cheaper, as we learn that most of the recent imports of gold have gone into the Bank of England, that the demand on account of the Bank of France has almost wholly ceased, and that bullion is rapidly returning to the latter institution. We must bear in mind, however, that there are two instalments of the new English Loan yet to be met; and that the shipments of silver to India and China, notwithstanding that we have advices of a fall in the exchanges at Canton, will be extensive for some time. However, it is probable that future arrivals of silver from Mexico will be nearly sufficient to meet the demand in question; consequently it will be unnecessary to send gold to the Continent to purchase silver. One step towards cheaper money is the important fact that the Bank of France has reduced its rate of discount from 6 to 5 per cent.

The imports of bullion this week have been £27,000 from the Continent, £565,000—£80,000 being in gold—from Mexico and the West Indies; £160,000 from New York, and £700 from Portugal. The value of the gold known to be on passage from Australia is £560,000.

On Monday national Stocks were very firm, as follows:—Three per Cent Consols, for Money, 92½ to 93½; Ditto, for the Account, 93 to 93½; Exchequer Bills—March, 2s. to 2s. 6d. prem.; Ditto, June, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 92½; and Consols Scrip, 3½ to 3½ prem. The transactions on the following day were less numerous:—The Three per Cent Consols were 93 to 93½ for Money, and 92½ for Time; Consols Scrip, 3½ prem.; Exchequer Bills—March, 2s. to 2s. 6d. prem.; Ditto, June, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. prem.; Ditto, Bonds, 92½ to 93½. On Wednesday very little change took place in the quotations, with a steady market:—The Three per Cent Consols marked 92½ to 93½ for Transfer, and 92½ for Account; India Bonds, under £1000, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; Exchequer Bills, March, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. prem.; Ditto, June, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. prem.; Ditto, Bonds, 92½ to 93½. There was scarcely any movement in the market on Thursday:—Consols for Money were 92½ to 93½; and for Account, 93 to 93½; Exchequer Bills, June, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. prem.; Exchequer

Bonds, 92½; India Bonds, under £1000, were 5s. 6d. Much disappointment was felt in some quarters when it became known that the Bank rate of discount remained unaltered.

The Board of Trade returns of the import and export trade of the United Kingdom, during the first two months of the present year, show very favourable results, when compared with the corresponding period in 1855. The total value of our shipments was £15,700,533, against £11,497,212 last year. These figures show how little our commerce has been injured by the war, now brought to a conclusion.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been important, and a steady advance has taken place in prices generally. We have had dealings in Buenos Ayres Six per Cent at 59½; Ecuador Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 11½; Mexican Three per Cent, 20½ to 21½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 79 ex div.; Ditto, Three per Cent, 57; Portuguese Four per Cent, 42½; Sardinian Five per Cent, 94½ to 95; Spanish Three per Cent, 45½ to 46½; Ditto, New Deferred, 25½; Ditto, Passive, 7½; Turkish Six per Cent, 102½; Ditto, Four per Cent, Guaranteed, 101½ to 102; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 90; Chilean Six per Cent, 101 ex div.; Danish Three per Cent, 81½ ex div.; Russian Five per Cent, 105½ ex div.; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 94½; Venezuelan One-and-a-Half per Cent, 13; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 63½ to 64; Ditto, Four per Cent, 91 ex div. We understand that a new Russian Loan for a larger amount will shortly make its appearance.

Mining Shares have been very firm as to price, but the transactions in them have been but moderate:—Linares have marked 7½; Santiago de Cuba, 3½; Tin Croft, 4½; and United Mexican, 4.

There has been an improved inquiry for Joint-Stock Bank Shares, as follows:—Australasia, 99; Bank of Egypt, 6½; Bank of London, 60½; Commercial of London, 30½; London Chartered of Australia, 17; Ditto, New, 2; London and County, 32½; London Joint-Stock, 30½; London and Paris, 7½; New South Wales, 39½; Oriental, 43½; Ottoman Bank, 6½; South Australia, 40½; Union of Australia, 71½; Union of London, 27; Western Bank of London, 23½.

All Miscellaneous Securities have continued very firm:—Australian Agricultural have realised 27; Australian Royal Mail, 4½; Canada Company's Bonds, 142; Ditto, Government Six per Cent, 109½; Crystal Palace, 3½; Electric Telegraph, 68; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 16½; London General Omnibus Company, 34½; London Docks, 99½; North of Europe Steam, 13½; Oriental Gas, 1½; Ditto, New Shares, 4½ prem.; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2½; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½; Ditto, New, 1½; St. Katharine Dock, 83.

Another important rise has taken place in the value of most Railway Shares, and the market generally has ruled very firm. The total "calls" for the present month are increased to £2,452,602; but at least three-fourths of that amount are upon foreign lines. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 27½; Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 4½; Caledonian, 61½ ex div.; Chester and Holyhead, 15½; East Anglian, 19; Eastern Counties, 10½; Eastern Union, B Stock, 23½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 62; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 30; Great Northern, 94½; Ditto, A Stock, 80; Ditto, B Stock, 123½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 105½; Great Western, 65; Lancashire and Carlisle, 71½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 87½; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 104; London and North-Western, 101½; Ditto, Fifths, 16½; Ditto, Eights, 1½; London and South-Western, 93½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 29; Midland, 75; Norfolk, 58; North British, 34½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 79½; Ditto, York, 58½; Ditto, Leeds, 16; North Shropshire, 11½; North and South-Western Junction, 10½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 28½; Scottish Central, 63 ex div.; South-Eastern, 72½; Waterford and Kilkenny, 4½.

SHARES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, 104½; London and Tilbury, 118; Preston and Wyre, 45; Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth, Stock, 135.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Cork and Brandon, 4½; Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent, 12½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 71; Great Northern Five per Cent, 117; Great Western Charter Shares, 15; Lancashire and Yorkshire Six per Cent, 135; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Six per Cent, 115½; Midland Consolidated, 136; North British, 102½ ex div.; North-Eastern—Berwick, 92½; North Staffordshire, 21; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 90½.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½; Belgian Eastern Junction, 2½; Dutch Rhens, 12½; East Indian Extension, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 14½; Ditto, 17½; Great Indian Peninsula, 21½; Ditto, New, 3½; Great Luxembourg Constituted Shares, 7; Ditto, Obligations, 3½; Great Western of Canada, 25½; Ditto, New, 8; Madras, 20½; Namur and Liege, with interest, 7½; Paris and Lyons, 51½; Sambre and Meuse, 14½; West Flanders, 4½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, March 31.—The supply of English wheat in to-day's market coastwise and by land carriage was limited, but in good condition. The transactions in all kinds were by no means extensive, yet holders succeeded in obtaining last week's prices for all descriptions. In foreign wheat—the show of which was tolerably good—only a moderate business was transacted at late rates. Floating cargoes were held firmly. There was a firm demand for both English and foreign barley, at very full prices; and malt ruled steady. Oats changed hands slowly, at late quotations, but beans, peas, and flour were firm at full current rates.

April 1.—The supplies of all articles of grain in to-day's market were very moderate, and the trade generally ruled steady, at full Monday's prices.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 60s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 61s. to 70s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 60s. to 70s.; rye, 46s. to 48s.; grinding barley, 31s. to 33s.; distilling ditto, 33s. to 35s.; malted ditto, 38s. to 40s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 70s. to 75s.; brown ditto, 68s. to 69s.; Kingston and Ware, 70s. to 76s.; Chevallier, 72s. to 75s.; Yorkshire and Lancashire malt, 32s. to 35s.; potato do., 28s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 14s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 23s. to 25s.; Irish beans, 32s. to 35s.; grey peas, 41s. to 42s.; mangle, 42s. to 44s.; white, 43s. to 45s.; butlers, 42s. to 44s. per quarter. Tinned-made flour, 48s. to 60s., superior, 47s. to 49s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 45s. to 50s. per 280 lbs. American flour, 35s. to 38s. per barrel.

Seeds.—We have to report a steady demand for most seeds, at fully last week's quotations.

Linned.—English, crushing, 60s. to 67s.; Mediterranean, 61s. to 66s.; hempeed, 56s. to 58s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 14s. to 21s.; white ditto, 10s. to 13s.; tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, 88s. to 90s. per quarter. Linned cakes, English, £13 to £13 10s.; ditto, foreign, £13 10s. to £13; rape cakes, £7 10s. to £7 10s. per ton. Canary, 69s. to 62s. per quarter. White clover seed, 80s. to 110s.; ditto, red, 77s. to 92s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 9d. to 10d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 10d.; barley, 35s. 1d.; oats, 21s. 0d.; rye, 46s. 5d.; beans, 41s. 3d.; peas, 40s. 1d.

Home Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 6d.; barley, 36s. 5d.; oats, 23s. 7d.; rye, 45s. 4d.; beans, 41s. 1d.; peas, 39s. 10d.

English Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 98,307; barley, 52,538; oats, 12,035; rye, 57; beans, 6,885; peas, 9,388 quarters.

Tin.—The business done in our market is very moderate, yet prices are well supported. Common round corgon, 9d. to 9d. per lb.

Sugar.—Rather an active demand has been experienced for all raw sugars this week, and prices have further improved—6d. to fully 1s. per cwt. Barbados has realised 34s. 6d. to 41s. 6d.; Demerara, 40s. to 45s.; Mauritius, 39s. to 45s.; Madras, 31s. to 37s. 6d.; Manila, 10s. to 42s. per cwt. Floating cargoes have sold to some extent, partly for the Baltic. Refined goods have advanced 1s. per cwt. Brown lumps are selling at 52s. 6d.; and grocery, 53s. to 55s. per cwt.

Coffee.—We have had a very quiet market for all kinds. Prices, however, are supported. Good old, native Ceylon is worth 53s. per cwt.

Rice.—The business done in this article is very moderate. Owing to the heavy stock, prices are barely supported.

Provisions.—Fine butters are scarce, and in fair request, at full quotations. Other kinds move off slowly, at late rates. We have a fair demand for bacon, at fully late rates. Hams, lard, and other kinds of provisions, command very little attention.

Tallow.—Our market may be considered steady, and F.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 47s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 45s. 6d. to 46s. 6d. net cash. Rough fat, 36s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.

Oils.—Linned oil has changed hands to a moderate extent at 33s. 6d. to 34s. per cwt. In other oils very little is doing. We have no change to notice in the value of turpentine.

Spirits.—There is a fair demand for rum at fully late rates. Proof Leeward, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d.; East India, 1s. 11d. to 2s.; foreign, proof to 10 per cent over, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 3d. per gallon. Brandy is tolerably firm, and sales of cognac, best brands of 1851, have been effected at 10s. 4d. to 10s. 6d. per cwt. British-made spirit, 10s. 7d. proof. Gin, 17d. under proof, 9s. 10d.; 22 ditto, 9s. 4d.; and Geneva, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 1d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 10s. to £6 0s.; clover ditto, £5 0s. to £6 10s.; and straw, £1 6s. to £1 12s. per load. Trade tolerably firm.

Coals.—Eden Main, 16s. 3d.; Hswell, 17s. 9d.; Hilton, 17s. 6d.; Lambton, 17s.; North Hill, 16s. 6d.; Stewart, 17s. 6d.; Carado, 16s. 6d.; Tees, 17s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—Fine new hops are selling at late rates. Inferior kinds continue very dull, owing to the large supplies on offer.

Wool.—The trade generally is firm, and prices are quite as high as last week.

Potatoes.—The arrivals are large for the time of year, yet there is an improvement in the trade. Prices rule from 3s. to 9s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The beef trade has been less active this week, and prices have had a downward tendency. Sheep, however, have moved off freely, at the late advance. Lambs and calves have gone lower, with a dull inquiry.

Beef. From 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; lamb, 6s. 0d. to 7s. 0d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs. to sink the oil.

Neigate and Leadenhall.—The trade generally has ruled inactive, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; lamb, 5s. 4d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass. ROBERT LEBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

H. PRING, Bristol, baker and flour dealer.

BANKRUPTCY.

H. E. PHILLIPS, R. Bousquet, flour merchant.—T. EVANS, Wood-street, Chesham, umbrella and parcel manufacturer.—E. LINCOLN, Tottenham-court-road, licensed victualler.—R. POTTER, Exeter, shipbuilder.—J. BAILEY, Wood-street, Chesham, merchant.—W. B. MOSS, Stamford, Lincolnshire, butcher.—H. COLLINS, Ashford, Kent, carpenter and builder.—J. HARRIS, Tipton, Staffordshire, iron master.—J. T. OWEN, Swansea, optician and mathematical instrument maker.—J. B. TOKER, Manchester, manufacturer of malleable cast iron and trade.—M. LASKER and G. HITTER, New Bathing-street, merchants and commission agents.—J. COOPER, Hyde, grocer and tea dealer, coal and corn merchant, and miller.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1.</

NEW MUSIC, &c.

at all the principal Music Warehouses, and at E. Kretzschmar.

THANK GOD FOR PEACE.

THE POETRY BY M. J. J.

THE MUSIC BY FRANK MORI.

Slow, yet cheerful.

I think the sweet spring-time that

soon will come With shine and shade—in - ten - sest smiles and tears— Will laugh in joy to ma - ny an

Eng - lish home That hath not known a Spring for two sad years. I think that ma - ny lit - tle

ones there are, Will feel the world grow ho - lier a - pace, While watch-ing melt in dew the cloud of care That hath so

long o'er-hung the mo - ther's face.

I. I think the sweet spring-time that soon will come
With shine and shade—intense smiles and tears—
Will laugh in joy to many an English home
That hath not known a Spring for two sad years.
I think that many little ones there are,
Will feel the world grow holier apace,
While watching melt in dew the cloud of care
That hath so long o'erhung the mother's face.

II. I think there's many a pale and patient hand
Of women, sable-clad, who weeping say,
"Thank God for Peace that cometh from His hand,"—
Although it comes too late for such as they.
I think the world groans hard beneath its load
Of wrong and suffering, falsity, and strife,
And cries are wrung forth—piteous calls to God—
To give it grander uses—nobler life.

III. O Heaven, so calm! that on pure, peaceful nights,
Looked down reproachful with its every star,
Wondering, it might be, at the dreadful sights
That did blaspheme God's world in the name of War,—
When shall new health come to this morbid race?
When shall these seething, whirling turmoils cease?
We wait for the full shining of His grace,
And cry in faith and trust, "Thank God for Peace."



THE PEACE.

HISTORY OF THE WAR AGAINST RUSSIA.

(Concluded from the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Feb. 2 1856.)

We take advantage of the signature of the Treaty of Peace by the Plenipotentiaries of the Great Powers of Europe assembled in solemn Conference at Paris, to conclude the History of the War, commenced in this Journal on the 30th September, 1854. Our rapid summary of events brought down the narrative to the Battle of Balaklava, at which point we resume the story.

The final results of the surprise of Balaklava, and of the various combats which it comprises under one name, were these:—First, that the Russians had stripped all the four redoubts of their defences; secondly, that they had captured and removed seven large guns; thirdly, that they had seized and that they maintained the fourth or furthest redoubt, in some measure unlocking the possession of the others; fourthly, that they, consequently, necessitated, or induced our relinquishment of the other three, and the contraction of the beleaguering position (which measures on our part however, though humiliating, were beneficial to us rather than disastrous); fifthly, that they had destroyed our matchless Light Cavalry. On the other side, the advantages of the Allies were—first, that in numerical loss they had inflicted far more than they had suffered; secondly, that, in moral effect, all the profit of the encounter rested with them, whether the defence of Sir Colin Campbell's infantry, or the attack of General Scarlett's, Lord Cardigan's, and General Bosquet's cavalry be regarded; thirdly, that our position was now both improved in compactness, and more clearly understood, in one at least of its assailable points, by its own defenders. As to the fact which then first startled Europe, that, if Sebastopol was besieged, so were its besiegers, that fact was not due to the battle; what ensued from the battle was not the fact, but only the distinct knowledge of the fact.

In dismissing this event, we may yield a well-earned tribute of admiration to the manner in which the Russian operation was planned, and, indeed conducted. The honour of the strategy belongs to the assailants; but the honour of the fighting and (excepting the one charge) of the field tactics, as contradistinguished from strategy, entirely and unquestionably to the defenders.

The next day 4000 of the garrison (who during the night had manifested their joy at the capture of our guns, by ringing of bells, continual shoutings, and a deafening but innocuous cannonade) attacked the right of the British siege position at Inkerman, but were, by Sir De Lacy Evans and his division, repulsed with a loss of five hundred killed or wounded, and a hundred prisoners. Our loss in killed was under ten with about seventy wounded. We mention this little affair of the 26th of October, because it was in reality a battle of Inkerman, baulked merely by timely discovery of the attempt; and the 4000 defeated Russians were but an advance guard. Had the lesson of that warning blow been put to profit, the name of Inkerman would not now in so many thousands of households excite the feelings of a rebuking grief, and recall the remembrance of a scene of bloodshed equally profuse and profitless. Sir De Lacy Evans was now obliged by illness to go on board ship at Balaklava, but he went in deep uneasiness respecting the British right flank. He even urged some precautions to be taken, and more men to be stationed in that quarter. More men could not be spared; but what was executed afterwards could have been executed then; some intrenchments and some batteries could have made the brinks and the verges of the eminence impregnable.

A reinforcement of 1000 French cavalry landed the very next day after that of the cavalry actions which we have described; the works of the siege were continued amidst constant interruptions from the sorties of the garrison; various ill-managed arrangements disordered with diurnal regularity the dépôt at Balaklava, whilst the French dépôt at Kamiesch was acquiring an ever improved condition; and, in short, the ordinary business of a camp occupied the interval between the last encounter with the enemy and the fifth of November.

BATTLE OF INKERMEN.

Already the exhausting labours to which the proportionately small British army had been applied in the trenches, the camp service, the batteries, the circumvallation, and the guards, was beginning to produce their effect upon the health and spirits of the men, when the first unfavourable atmospheric changes—harbingers of still greater—came to aggravate their case. Nothing in the military art (excepting always the paramount business of the commissary and the armourer) is either so important or so accurately ascertained as the exact numerical proportion of a corps to be told off and devoted to the rotation of its general duties in revolving succession. An army which is invincible while this numerical proportion is regularly observed, may become a rabble of invalids—or rather, half rabble, half hospital—easy to beat still easier to surprise, if the least deviation occurs from the well-known average of allotments for the “on duty” and the “off duty” in their thousand varieties. We should wander from our province if we did more here than just recall this principle; the details of its application would lead us into technical reckonings more proper for a professional treatise than for our present memoir. It is sufficient to remark that the duties of an army must be done; and that, if it be underhanded for those duties, the rule on which its efficiency depends must be waved in favour of another rule—that on which depends its existence. For example, if there be no guard in yonder trench, or on yonder hill, the lines are broken, and the camp is crushed within the next six hours; but if you have no relief for the guards at certain intervals, the utmost limits of which are well tested by every form of experience, then the guard must be continued in their work for inordinate stretches at a time; and, if so continued, the men are worn out and rendered worthless as soldiers, or probably they perish altogether. But continued they are, and must be; for in a choice of two modes of destruction the more gradual must be preferred. When an army is long regularly overworked it certainly becomes inefficient, and inefficiency means the likelihood of defeat; but rather let it become inefficient, and be exposed to the consequent risks, than, by not being overworked, incur the certainty of one grand butchery at the first instant that the enemy discover its sword-point lowered.

The British army, then, being underhanded, was of course overworked. Two words will express their real state: the work of six men was given to one man to perform, whilst the time of sleep necessary to one man was distributed among half-a-dozen, to repair exhausted nature. Such was their condition when the weather, as we have observed, began to augment the already excessive burden of their hardships. On the night of the 4th of November it rained in torrents, the men in the tents were as little to be envied as those who had custody of the flooded trenches. Those on carrying duty were not only drenched themselves, but had to be able to keep the arms which they held in their cumbersome hands from the wet. Towards midnight of that winter morning, as they stood shivering and dripping on the

cliffs, scarce awake, yet stamping to and fro upon their beats, there broke upon the half-conscious ear from Sebastopol the dreary distant ringing of its church bells. But this had occurred morning after morning—there was nothing to remark in it; and when the worn-out sentries endeavoured to see what might be in progress among the Russians the dense fog concealed everything from him—everything not within reach of his arm. With the morning the fog seemed to thicken, and the drifting masses of vapour fell close over and around every object. Day brought no light. Some, however, had heard in the night a dull and muffled roll, as of wheels far down. There was a sergeant in an outlying picket of the Light Division who had noticed some such sound—unless in his exhaustion he had fallen asleep for an instant, and had dreamt. When he reported his impression, it was remembered how constantly the arabas entered Sebastopol by the Inkerman road; it must have been carts of that description, if it was a real sound at all. It was, indeed, too real! We are relating the facts, not resting an indictment upon them, or we might here pause to press certain questions not yet answered, though often since that dreadful day they have been asked.

About five o'clock, just after General Codrington, who held a brigade in the Light Division, had made his round, and having received a report of “All well,” had ridden back from the brow of the hill, a sudden ring of musketry broke the unconsciousness of the right flank. At this place the Inkerman height is cleft, all the way up from the valley, by three or four deep indentations, and in the shadow of them, under the sleet and rain, with the long grey great-coats which made them literally seem but so many shadowy formations of the atmosphere itself, came the “Children of the Mist,” not, however, like those of Scott, few and wild, but in a vast and regular army, all whose dispositions for battle had been matured during the night, and who were now rushing in irresistible columns upon the Second Division, even with that division's own outposts and pickets. The Second Division's position had been dropped like a fold a little over the verge of the hill which, therefore, making head against the mass of assailants, and contesting every square foot, it was now obliged to reascend with the utmost haste. The enemy was in prodigious force, outnumbering, indeed, the whole available combatants of the British Camp by ten to one. These advanced troops, consequently, had no chance of arresting them. The Light Division was in five minutes as completely engaged as the Second. They receded with steadiness, and though they had received the first fire, and that at point-blank distance, they expended the last cartridge ere they had been driven back upon the plateau.

In every sense the attack was thoroughly earnest, and had been concerted with large combinations. To prevent the French from bringing assistance to the right or British flank, a desperate sortie was made from Sebastopol upon the front of our allies, simultaneously with this assault at Inkerman, and to paralyse analogously any aid from Balaklava, as well as to dislocate our whole position, Liprandi renewed his movement of the 25th in the valley of the redoubts, just beyond, on, and around “Canrobert's Hill;” there he drew up his immense cavalry, which, if there had been the slightest wavering or yielding at Inkerman, would have swept our retreating columns into the sea. Prince Napoleon—if the substance of the pamphlet be his which is universally attributed to his general dictation and suggestion, though not supposed to be his own actual composition—thinks that General Liprandi committed a great and most fortunate mistake in not pressing the Balaklava attack more vigorously. It was, in truth, only a demonstration, which, however, kept our Marines and our Highland Brigade from all chance of effectively aiding their comrades at Inkerman, had such aid been wanted; and General Liprandi, moreover, was evidently acting under higher authority, whose directions were communicated to him by signs from an aerial telegraph erected expressly for that purpose on the hill of Inkerman opposite to ours, across the river, near the Caves and Ruins of the same name. From this semaphore signals could be given right and left—to Sebastopol on the one side, and to the army of Liprandi between Tchergoum and Kadikoi, on the other. Of course, such signals could be discerned only after the mists had cleared away.

These combinations were not enough; vessels were steamed up into the creeks, and thence shelled the British Camp with considerable effect during the action. The Grand Dukes Michael and Constantine inspired the soldiers by their presence; the priests solemnly blessed them ere they issued to the attack; they were plentifully supplied with *raki*, and they came on mad with physical inebriation and spiritual enthusiasm, in numbers, and under a combination of skilful arrangements, which promised, if ever the feat was to be accomplished, to crush the Allies in one grand battle. Everything most infuriating in the actual struggle of the soldier was united in this enterprise with everything most provident, calculating, and astute in the scheming of the General. It has since transpired that the late Emperor Nicholas, distant as he was, had charts, plans, sketches, reports, so finished and exact, that his spirit could often preside over the minutest details, as well as the general course of the tenacious and desperate defence of Sebastopol, his “holy city;” and certain we are that, in the pre-eminent effort of the 5th of November, where it was arranged that the sons should bear their part, the father's mind had itself delineated much of the executory work. The whole day, indeed, discloses traces of that vast and strenuous supervision.

The manifest preparation of the assailants is a contrast to the surprise and discomfiture of the Allies. The men who, at Inkerman, made the most marvellous resistance known in modern warfare, had just come drenched, dripping, famished, reeling with weariness, and with sleepiness from the knee-deep rain and slush of the trenches, scarcely able to stand, they were occupied in trying to cook a mouthful of breakfast with such haste, and to eat it with such voracity, as would yield them a few minutes the more for the deep slumbers of fatigue. But they were not to eat that meal; and for many and many of them a yet deeper slumber was prepared—the couch spread out, and the pillow ready beneath their feet.

It would have been an historical treason to the memory of the heroes who perished if we had omitted to recall these circumstances of disparity between their situation and the situation of the host whom they on that day hurled back into the Tchernaya.

Sir De Lacy Evans being sick (as we have said), General Pennefather had the honour to command the Second Division; and now dispatching General Adams with three regiments—the 41st, 47th, and 49th—to arrest the enemy in front, he sent the 30th, 55th, and 90th to support them *en echelon*. Next these troops, on the Sebastopol, or west side, General Cathcart promptly pushed left with the 20th, 21st, 46th, 57th, 63rd, and 68th, moving with them in person, and attended by Brigadiers Torrens and Goldie. Sir George Brown was, of course at once involved in the rush, with the 88th, 77th, 7th Fusiliers, 19th and 33rd; and Brigadiers Buller and Codrington were in their places. But, hitherto, the three divisions mustered scarcely five thousand bayonets on the ground; and the enemy had already climbed the heights with twenty thousand such troops as the Russians never previously showed themselves to be; for they came with stubbornness to the push of the steel. And as the portions available of the three Divi-

sions advanced to repel this terrific attack—which was evidently intended to end only in precipitating the whole Allied army over the cliffs of Kherson Bay—some forty heavy pieces of artillery opened upon their columns from the well-prepared and well-posted batteries on the opposite hill. It was now that the Duke of Cambridge, with his Guards, under Brigadier Bentinck, came speedily through the deep slime of the saturated table land from behind, and took his post in the dim and drizzly obscurity to the right of the Second Division. Sir Richard England and the Third Division moved up in reserve; while his Royal Highness, having reached the steep margin of the plateau, became at once engaged hand to hand with a double column of Russians, who were attempting the Camp in that direction. The attack thus formed a slight concave; and yet we who formed the inner or convex portion of that crescent of fire, had comparatively plenty of room, whereas the Russians were densely crowded in a much larger space. Could they have once securely fixed their footing on the level heights of the Encampment, they would have spread out; everything, therefore, depended on arresting them at or near the brow. Each shot of the minié told with fearful effect upon their deep columns—one bullet sometimes laying low as many as four in file. But those behind pushed on those in front, who were, besides, not sorry to exchange a mode of combat wherein their numbers were a disadvantage to them, for one in which, by mere weight, they hoped to prevail against the few, feeble, fatigued, and surprised defenders.

Thus it happened that the rarest characteristic of battles became the grand characteristic of this battle. The *Times* correspondent was in error when he alluded to Maida as the only instance where troops were known to cross bayonets in earnest. This occurred at Albuera, and it has occurred on other occasions; but it never occurred as it occurred at Inkerman. The bayonet was, for great part of the engagement, the only weapon used, and it was the chief weapon throughout—it was the weapon which decided the event. We had indulged the idea that no enemy could withstand the British charge of bayonets; and, nevertheless, these Russians, whom we certainly should not have imagined likely to furnish the first memorable exception to such a rule, not only awaited with firmness the bayonet of our Grenadier Guards themselves, but withstood it successfully, over and over again, when those unsurpassed soldiers renewed the dreaded onset, with an energy which each time seemed as if it could not be more strenuous or more desperate, and yet each time gained in violence and fury; and this is not all, for the bayonet charge was returned, and returned repeatedly. The horrible fight raged in this manner for hours. No conflict in history resembles it. It has since been called the victory of the soldiers and regimental officers; and as such it will be handed down to never-ending remembrance. Order, and formations, and tactics, were impossible. Hand to hand, steel to steel, a company of one regiment amid the companies of another, a British battalion lost to sight amongst the hostile masses, and then ripping its desperate way back to view—all torn, soiled, and bloody—with bayonets bent double or broken, with clubbed muskets, without muskets, with blocks of stone besmeared with the hair and brains of some slaughtered foe—thus, and worse than thus, in close fight—wrestling often with the Russians, and often strangling them with hands that had smashed every weapon they had held; thus, we say, the 8000 troops who were attacked that morning defended and kept the heights of Inkerman for nearly four hours against 50,000 Russians.

It were hard to say on which side the conflict was most desperate; throughout it partook more or less of the awful character we have described; whether on the left, where Sir George Cathcart, descending the ravine to take the enemy in flank, was outflanked himself, and killed; or on the right, where the Duke of Cambridge beheld his Guards perishing amid piles of hostile dead; or in the centre, where Sir G. Brown and General Pennefather resisted similar odds. When, between seven and eight o'clock, the mist cleared away, the practice of the Russian artillery became more murderous. But Lord Raglan ordered Colonel Gambier to bring up two 18-pounders; and these, under his, Lieut.-Colonel Dickson's and Lieut.-Colonel Dagular's command, rendered inestimable service against the crowded assailants, as well as against their artillery, which was silenced and dispersed by half-past one.

Long before this, at ten o'clock, the French infantry (the Zouaves and Chasseurs de Vincennes, and Arabian Chasseurs Indigènes) appeared to the right of our Guards, and cheered all our labouring divisions; and a little earlier still the French had turned some guns upon the flank of the Russian masses, who were still clambering up the hill; for as fast as one furious charge was repulsed, fresh columns advanced with a yell, exchanged volleys at close range, and then rushed into the British ranks with the steel. But they could make no progress beyond the brow of the hill; and now the 50th, 28th, and 4th Regiments, held in reserve, and forming part of Sir Richard England's Division (the Third) entered comparatively fresh into the struggle; so that when the British, still making head in front, saw their brave allies descending the slope to charge the enemy in flank, a wild rapturous cheer arose through the whole line, and one vast last desperate onset was made. Nay, a curious feat was accomplished by the French cavalry (the Chasseurs d'Afrique); for no sooner had the Russians begun to give way in all directions before the final bayonet charge of the French and English, than, despite the unevenness of brake and brushwood, these Chasseurs charged the masses already in confusion, and inflicted upon them incredible loss. But, just then, the fog returned, and pursuit became impossible.

Thus ended the great Battle of Inkerman, the like of which is not to be found in the annals of France and England. The loss of life bespeaks the magnitude of the struggle; the number of officers slain shows its desperate character. The British lost about 2400 men, the French some 1800. Of these last, a third exactly fell in repelling the sortie from the south-east saltports of Sebastopol—a sortie designed to paralyse the action of our friends, and prevent them from helping the British. It had no such effect, as the reader has seen; on the contrary, had the combined forces only been so numerous as to have afforded us fourteen or fifteen thousand spare bayonets, there is no doubt whatever that Sebastopol, which was emptied of all its garrison save those who were driven back into it from this sortie, must necessarily have been taken during the action. Lieutenant-General Cathcart, Brigadier-General Goldie, and Brigadier-General Strangways, were killed. Colonel Swiney, of the 63rd Regiment, and only too many others of his or nearly equal rank fell that day. The Guards lost fourteen officers; and the Coldstreams alone buried seven of their chiefs in a single grave. Few regiments suffered more than the gallant Connaught Rangers—five companies of which, trusting only to the guidance of their excessive and romantic impetuosity, were literally lost in the wilderness of enemies through which they rushed forward to make a clearance. Out of 350 men but seventy escaped the fatalities of this terrible field. With respect to the French, our soldiers expressed themselves rapturously. Our allies, in truth, not only behaved with surpassing vigour and gallantry, but with that coolness, prudence, and order, on which, if possible, even more depended. Their blows were weighty, and they were all dealt in the right place, and at the critical moment. Their Commander-in-

Chief was wounded, though not so severely as the Chief of our Light Division, Sir George Brown, who was carried off the field. To tell the episodes and romantic incidents of the day, though strikingly illustrative of its character, would occupy more space than we have at command. One rescue attracted peculiar attention then and since. A British sergeant, being attacked by five Russians, killed two, and was knocked down by the remainder, with five wounds; as they were on the point of dispatching him, he saw them fly, and felt himself lifted by a powerful hand upon a horse, the rider of which, a French officer, galloped with him to the rear, and, placing him in safety, kissed his hand, and rode back to the fight. Who this noble officer was, or what his fate, will never be known on earth.

Lord Raglan estimated the Russian force at 60,000. The prisoners, who were very numerous, gave it at the same figure; stating that it was in great part the Bessarabian army, which had been transported in light order by forced marches to the Crimea. In killed, wounded, and prisoners this host lost just about the number of the whole of the troops engaged with them in actual conflict—nearly 14,000 being slain, disabled, and captured. The field presented a significant spectacle. The dead lay in the attitudes of flight: one seemed to be firing his piece; another, with both hands above his head, as he was stretched supine, held the barrel of his musket in act to repeat with the iron part that blow which had already smashed the stock; another had his own hand pinned to his body by the bayonet which had pierced him; others had fallen by the side of the Russians whom they had struck through with that weapon at the very moment of receiving from them the like blow; others grasped a large stone, which they appeared never to have been able to lift, having sunk in death upon their faces while stooping—every posture of violence and mortal battle.

Of the fruits of such a struggle, we must say that they consisted in merely having repulsed the enemy. All the valour described was exercised, and all the losses enumerated were sustained, with no other effect on which to found congratulation or joy than that the Allied army was not strangled, so to speak, by the immense attack of the 5th of November.

ABSTRACT OF SUBSEQUENT EVENTS.

On the 14th of November occurred the great storm which inflicted immense loss upon our transports and fleet. Great treasures were engulfed, and numerous vessels cast away. But both before and since considerable reinforcements and supplies continued to reach Balaklava rather than the Allied Camp. The French, indeed, received their consignments with far greater regularity than we ours. Everything was dispatched from England that could minister to the wants of our soldiers, or mitigate the sufferings which now began to thin their ranks more rapidly than the enemy had thinned them. Intense cold, combined with alternations of sleet, of storm, and snow, made their position on the bleak hills of Inkerman more fatal, at least in the number of dead, than a defeat which would have, once and for all, driven them to their ships. The wet rotted the ground into a morass; the road between Balaklava and the Camp became impassable to wheeled vehicles, no matter what the horse-power employed to draw them; and the horses and mules themselves began to perish from exposure and from want of forage; for that very road which they could no longer traverse was their sole independent channel of supply. The transport beasts were not worse circumstanced than the cavalry horses. The enemy, aware of the situation, began to renew with vigour those continual sorties by which he harassed our front; and the British army, unequal in numbers to defend its own lines, was, of course, still more unequal to spare hands for the construction of a road, and for the necessary guard of the workmen, could these have been found. While the strength of the ranks was diminished, their work was meantime increased, and sickness ravaged or enfeebled them in every direction. It became difficult to bring up their rations—to tend the sick—nay, even to remove them. The state of our army was "heartrending." We do not wish to expatiate on this part of the subject—because, though the effects are historical, the causes are involved in recrimination, and perplexed with arguments, speculations, suggestions, reproaches, charges, counter-charges, and intricate discussions which find their most fitting place elsewhere; and which, we trust, will never again be needed or provoked in relating the progress of a British expedition. A single sentence will explain—not all, but much: *we entered on war with peace establishments.* It would be very easy indeed to fill a dozen columns with but a portion of the cross-purposes which have entailed so much misery and calamity. But this we must say—that, in addition to the grand cause at which we have already glanced, much—very much—of the mischief would be traceable to the conditions of our military system; and to treat of that system were to write an essay, not a narrative. We may further observe, that what is directly imputable to individual mismanagement and incapacity does not appear to us to inculpate Lord Raglan himself, so much as a crowd of others, over whom, *practically*, he had not sufficient control, because his control could be only re-tri-active, not preventive. One point we wish emphatically to place before the attention and remembrance of the reader, viz.—that, if we had no road, while the French had, the French possessed more free hands for the construction of a road—enjoyed five times a shorter line on which to construct it—and were sheltered during the operation itself on both flanks and in the rear.

During the distress in the British army our allies lent us apparel, provisions, and mules; and at length, when our strength, in spite of every effort, had sunk so far as to make this indispensable, they cheerfully assumed our positions, in addition to their own, along the right attack upon Sebastopol; the British main body retiring to recruit their energies at Balaklava, where the French Imperial Guard joined them. This was on the 12th of January—the New-Year's-day of the Russians. The guard of the British batteries and the protection of the corresponding trenches, were thus left to our allies; but our own artillerymen remained to work our guns.

The principal business of the besiegers was now to make various internal arrangements—to supply a road from Balaklava to Inkerman, and to accumulate in their batteries, which were gradually approaching the place (the left of the French attack had been worked up within 300 yards of the ramparts) such a mass of ammunition as would, if this was possible at all, reduce Sebastopol when the bombardment should be renewed.

Meantime, Omer Pacha, who had twice visited the Allied Camps to concert measures with the English and French Commanders, had gone with 30,000 Turks to Eupatoria—a position of paramount importance to the ultimate success of the expedition. Various events had occurred more important in their promise than in their immediate effects. In England the Government of Lord Aberdeen had fallen before Mr. Roebuck's motion for a Committee to Inquire into the Management of the War. In the Crimea Mr. Brassey and his navvies had arrived at Balaklava to make a railway from that town to the centre of the north-east attack. Sir Francis Head had long before suggested a plank-road, after the Canadian fashion, as more expeditious to make, and ten times cheaper. A powerful contemporary, which printed his letter, commented upon it derisively; but it is now generally allowed that the suggestion was wise. By the 8th of February the navvies had laid down a mile and a half of the railway, to the great wonder and visible excitement of the Cossack pickets, who gazed upon the panting steam-engine from the hills beyond Kamars and Kadikoi. It was not till early in February that General Liprandi quitted the position at the further gorge of the valley of Tchernaya, which he had retained ever since the 25th of October. Whither he went was not at first ascertainable, as the deep snow repeatedly prevented that "reconnaissance in force," which the French, under General Bosquet, aided by Sir Colin Campbell and the Highlanders, desired to execute in the direction of Tchorgour and the vale of Baidar.

All this time the fighting was incessant along the front of the beleaguering lines; and frequently the French miners encountered the Russian counter-miners underground; so that, if we entered more into the minute details of this terrible war, we could fill chapters with its subterranean episodes, in addition to the horrors which were enacted on the surface of the earth. Desperate sorties were incessantly repulsed, while the accumulation of the bombarding materials proceeded steadily, though slowly.

It was now, as the besieging lines began to hem in the place more and more closely, that the Russians, rising in spirit with the pressure, displayed the energies of assailants and besiegers, encountering the gradually tightened leaguer with advanced works all around their previous forts, particularly in front of the Malakoff Tower. This they fenced with a new exterior girdle of earthworks, trenches, and rifle-pits—approaching, so to speak, the approaches of the French. The tower is so situated, that its fall would command much of the neighbouring fortification. The French determined to destroy its new defences, when the noise of a distant exploit reached the Camp.

COMBAT OF EUPATORIA.

Omer Pacha had considerably increased the defensive lines traced, and partially executed by the French at Eupatoria, when his Tartar scouts brought him word that a large body of Russians, coming from Simpheropol, were approaching. Their videttes were visible on the evening of the 16th of February. The Turks under Omer's command were his tried veterans, very different from those whom he had lent to the French and English, and who had made so poor a stand in our redoubts at Balaklava on the 25th of October. Eupatoria projects into the sea, which overlays it, north and south, in two creeks. By Omer's request, the Allied ships stationed themselves in these creeks, so as to rake the plain in front of the town, the artillery of which commanded it also. Beyond this plain is a wooded prairie country, yielding but little water, and that water brackish and deleterious. The Russian columns were suffering already from the effects of their march over such a region. They mustered about 35,000 men in all, and were under the immediate orders of General Khruless, but directed it is supposed, by Prince Menschikoff and Count Osten Sacken, and aided by a division of General Liprandi's. They had brought scaling-ladders, and advanced at day break of the 17th, under cover of thirty large pieces of artillery—their infantry being in their usual dense formations, and a considerable cavalry force manœuvring on the flanks, to prevent any regular sortie. It was evidently, from the effects of the position itself, a hopeless attempt—which however they renewed some half-dozen times, with praiseworthy resolution. The ship's guns on either flank, and the town artillery in front made havoc in their columns. Still they pressed on till the Turks who had reserved their rifle fire and musketry for a moment when they would prove most decisive, poured them into masses already shaken, when these were close to the gabions and batteries, and then, under cover of a powerful discharge from all the batteries, sallied upon the assailants and broke them completely. The Turkish loss has been variously stated; but they certainly had not much more than 200 killed and wounded—the latter forming the majority of the number. In fact, of the mixed defenders, Turkish, Egyptian, French, and British, about sixty only were slain. Among them was the Egyptian General, Suleiman Pacha. The Russians, counting those who perished in their retreat over the salt region, which lay behind them, are supposed to have lost upwards of 1000 men. The prisoners were not in proportion, owing to the relative strength in cavalry.

Just at this very epoch (February 15th) Europe was startled with the rumour that the Emperor Napoleon had determined to go in person to the Crimea. Every effort was made in France and in England by the highest personages to turn him from this intention. The Conference, or, indeed, Congress, just about to open in Vienna, had the effect of averting the step, for the time at least. Lord John Russell passed through Paris, on his way, to represent England at those solemn discussions, in which one more effort was to be made to terminate the deplorable struggle between the East and the West.

NIGHT COMBAT AT THE SELENGHINSKI REDOUBT.

A last incident will claim our notice at the scene of the war, before we mention the great event which seemed to mark the close of the first grand stage in the hostilities, if not to presage their total cessation.

We have alluded to the works with which the Russians had surrounded Fort Malakoff, and to the anxiety of General Canrobert to destroy them at once. On the night of the 23rd of February, the Zouaves and Marines, 3000 strong, under General Bonet, sallied forth silently to attack these works, which consisted principally of a great but unfinished redoubt, on the right bank of the Careening Bay. The assailants were soon detected by the outposted marksmen of a rifle-pit, who retreated fighting. The Zouaves rushed into the redoubt, after receiving and returning a severe volley, and took the defence by the sheer force of the bayonet. The Russians were reinforced, and returned to the charge with eight thousand men. A dreadful conflict ensued; but the Zouaves, thus overmatched, long held their ground, and twice succeeded in repulsing the immense mass of enemies. A third time these returned; and the Marines, who had throughout behaved irresolutely, fled; then the Zouaves, though still resisting most desperately, were driven fairly out of the redoubt. Re-forming, in the darkness at a little distance, they rushed back against the threefold numerical odds within the redoubt, and won possession of it once more. When the Russians were expelled in this manner the second time, blue lights were flung up from the ramparts, to enable the Russian gunners to take aim, and by this intermittent glare a storm of artillery was poured into the work from all the forts around. In a few minutes five hundred of the heroic Zouaves were laid low; flesh and blood could not withstand such a fire; the spot was found completely untenable, and the redoubt was abandoned. It is stated, however, that the enemy's success had cost him a heavy price, and that his slain were much more numerous than those lost by the French. Again we are forced, in justice, to praise the intrepidity of our foes; for they fought with inconceivable fury in defence of this outwork; which, nevertheless, they could not keep by the bayonet or by numbers, though they recovered it by artillery.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

The Emperor Nicholas was ill at St. Petersburg, when the news reached him of the unsuccessful attack upon Eupatoria. For nearly two years he had heard nothing but disastrous tidings. He had just given his consent to the resumption of negotiations at Vienna; he had hoped to have enforced good terms by the stubborn defence of Sebastopol and the recapture of Eupatoria, which is a place of incalculable importance to the Allies for ulterior operations. The last blow is said to have shaken his spirits incurably. He from that moment rapidly sank; and on Friday morning, the 2nd of March, in the 59th year of his age, and the 31st of his reign, he breathed his last. The event was known in Paris the same day; but its results cannot be truly estimated even now.

Here we close, for the present, this collective account; all the incidents of the month of March and of the first half of April being of that kind which oblige us to regard many of them in succession as virtually but one form and one stage of the struggle, and yet too near us to be placed properly or successfully in the light which that view demands.

MISCELLANEOUS SURVEY.

The new Emperor, Alexander, began his reign with a declaration that he would tread in the footsteps of "Peter, Catherine, Alexander the First, and Nicholas;" a manifesto on which he acted. It was in an evil hour that he adopted such counsels; they caused much suffering throughout Europe,—thousands of lives, and millions in expenditure,—and brought his own empire to the verge of destruction.

The 11th of March was remarkable for the establishment of a Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry (which was a measure of possible prospective utility, but of no actual relief or value). Now, moreover, there had begun a diminution of those sufferings of our army which had suggested the investigation. Lord Palmerston, who had, on the fifth of the preceding month, undertaken to form a Government, was, however, himself determined to adopt practical steps which showed far more vigour than those of his predecessors. Whatever the positive value, moreover, of the exchange which the country had made in its rulers, the moral effect was immense; for it showed to the world that the English people were now thoroughly aroused, and that no Ministry would be long suffered to hold office without embodying the public spirit which this great emergency befitting; and that for this end the representatives would be obliged to proceed, if necessary, from change to change in the trustees of our common destinies until the right men had been found. It is even probable that not the least of those warnings of chastisement which broke the spirit, or at least clouded the declining days, of the Emperor Nicholas was that very change of the British Ministry. He saw in it the extent to which his insane rashness had

committed the fortunes of an empire far from really capable of confronting the opponents which its rulers had so incurably offended.

We can scarcely except from the class of secondary events,—in all but the steady progress of a moral effect destined to give us victory at last,—the departure of the advanced or flying squadron of the Baltic fleet as it was called. That fleet was not yet what the Baltic navigation and the hostile coast fortresses required from us as belligerents. Such as it was, however, no such naval armament had ever sailed or steamed out of port; it was as much superior for the purposes of regular marine warfare to anything ever witnessed before as it was inferior to that which was prepared for the next such expedition, both in the respect mentioned and in aptitude for the special services demanded. The fact is, that means of action may be rendered so effectual as to preclude the necessity for using them; and this was gradually becoming the case with the Western Powers.

We may here say that the public feeling was not quite the best for rendering justice to the public servants; and some were too much thanked and honoured at first who were subsequently too much condemned. The natural indignation, for instance, excited by the sufferings and temporary destruction of a victorious army was intense, and it was just; but it took its original aim with temerity. We allude specially to the case of Lord Raglan, whose subsequent death alone disarmed the rage of a nation with whom his popularity had just been high. And yet it is now made clear that he had not the powers indispensable to have averted all the misfortunes which occurred. Those powers existed; but it is not enough in war that authority for every needful arrangement should exist somewhere. By far the most favourable condition for the execution of a general's complicated and multifarious task, is that he should be a despot in his control, and that this control should be as unlimited as the fixed laws of nature allow. All the power in its supreme resort, should centre in his orders, and be at his own immediate disposal. At the same time he was not a first-rate commander. Some of his subordinates were more to blame than he. They ought to have reported to him what means were at their disposal; but a great general would have supplied even this remissness, and would have made himself acquainted with even those particulars that ought to have been volunteered, but were withheld.

It was just seven days after the death of the Emperor Nicholas that the Russians commenced those defensive works on the Mamelon, which were the real cause of the prolongation of the siege. In short, from this moment, everything depended on driving them from a position which, perhaps, it would have been easier to have prevented falling into their possession. Independently of the sufferings which the Allies had undergone, there was this quite distinct and separate subject of regret that those trials were not made to purchase all that ought to have been "shown for them." The siege long seemed as though it stood still; there was no very sensible progress for three months from this time. Or rather the assailants positively lost in relative position. It was even doubtful for the period mentioned which side ought to have been considered as enduring, and which as pushing, a siege. Reinforcements, however, were fast and continuously arriving on both sides; and, of course, they arrived in a much more advantageous form for the Allies, whose troops disembarked unwasted by long marches. The sorties were incessant, and they were carried on with frightful prodigality of life. At length a slight superiority was perceptible; but perceptible rather to military men who considered the subject deeply, than to the general public. Almost every day saw the enemy losing something, however little that something might be; and never, except in the solitary preceding instance of the Mamelon, did he recover what was thus slowly wrested from his power. The fighting, in front of the Malakoff Tower, which the Russians knew to be the key of the situation before that fact was equally apparent to the Allies, was murderous and unintermitted. It was because the Russians were the first to appreciate the situation that they threw up the exterior works which we have mentioned. They gained the *un* in an instant, and lost them stubbornly, slowly, and only by dint of regular approaches. By the middle of March (it was on the 15th) the French carried a large ambuscade, the destruction of which greatly facilitated the parallels which they were driving forward. Another circumstance, which was the most complete innovation in warfare, and which took place eleven days later, enabled the Allies to get ready for trying a fresh bombardment on a scale which would otherwise have been impracticable for months. We mean the completion of the railway to a distance of four miles and a half from Balaklava. Indeed, modern science was taxed in its rarest resources by this extraordinary siege. It was commenced in a manner which set some of the prescriptive principles governing the military art in all ages at defiance—the non-investment of the place being the most important of the departures from custom. Then the nature of the soil and the height of the surrounding eminences constituted difficulties of their own. Shot and shell were seldom conveyed over so many natural obstructions, nor was the pickaxe often plied in ground more unfavourable. The crevices and ravines afforded a labyrinth of ambuscades to the defenders; and some of these posts required separate sieges, as it were, before they could be reduced. To the right of the Mamelon, as you face it, the Careening Creek held on its eastern bank some other redoubts, which the French had stormed so early as the 26th of February. Then came the approaches we have chronicled; while the English, on the 19th and 21st of April, carried two rifle-pits in front of the Great Redan, which was afterwards to prove so fatal to our arms. In the first of these brilliant exploits Colonel Egerton was killed; the second was accomplished with the bayonet by Lieutenant and Adjutant Walker at the head of a volunteer party. The sorties, meantime, were numberless; they were invariably repulsed, though often not without heavy loss. To chronicle in detail all these operations would be to write a diary affording very little variety in the particulars. The great point was that a progress was being slowly effected; but to follow its incidents minutely would have an effect somewhat like watching the hour hand of a clock.

Shortly after Lord Palmerston had taken office (Feb. 5th) he dispatched Lord John Russell as Representative Extraordinary of this country to a Conference at Vienna, and at the same time appointed him Secretary of State for the Colonies at home. The noble Lord was not destined, either by his skill or by his docility, to answer the expectations which his chief had a right to form. He had never been a diplomatist; he was not a brilliant, and, as it proved, not a cautious or a safe, negotiator; and, to crown all, in the absence of those qualifications which usually determine the selection of an Envoy,—in the absence, we say, of any one special accomplishment in this nobleman,—there seemed to have been a "specialty," quite extraordinary in the opposite extreme; for Lord John Russell happened to be conversant with no modern language but his own. As the Vienna Conference came to nothing, except derision and contempt, we shall not say more about them than that they lasted some five or six weeks.

Before passing to subsequent occurrences we may notice two subjects—one of which at the time created the greatest sensation, and both of which will enter into the future history of this epoch. The first was a threatened departure for, and the second an actual arrival in, the same scenes. The Emperor Napoleon, as soon as he had verified the appalling accounts of the sufferings endured by all the Allied troops (though in a far greater degree by the English than by his own) secretly commenced the most active preparations to set out in person to the Crimea. The design transpired by degrees; inconceivable efforts were made and the highest influences (including that of Queen Victoria) were exerted to dissuade the Emperor. The project was conformable with his romantic courage and adventurous character, as well as with that vehement sympathy which he ever testified for those servants who were exhibiting devotedness in his behalf, but, above all, for his military servants. No entreaties could move his purpose. "My army suffers," he said to one expositor; "I must be with it." At last, however, what neither arguments nor supplications could do was accomplished by imperious State necessity, the social condition of France, and the political exigencies of Europe,—indeed, of the world. We may observe the curious and romantic circumstance that his young and beautiful bride—the good, gentle, and graceful Eugénie—who might be supposed likely to be the very first to have thrown her arms round her husband's neck in order to forbid a project which, most intallibly in that kind of trench and rifle-pit warfare to which he was going—his hardy daring, and example-giving character being borne in mind—would have ended in the death of so marked an object, and have deprived the bride-empress of her throne, threw her influence into the other scale, and decided upon accompanying him to the East.

The other event to which we have adverted was the arrival in the Crimea of a personage not so high in rank as the Emperor of the



THE ATTACK ON SVEABO G.

French, but destined by one long operation to make his name permanently memorable. Admiral Menschikoff was definitively superseded in the command of Sebastopol, and his post intrusted to a less irritable, less haughty, less impetuous, less intractable, but far more really stern, unflinching, and capable soldier,—to him who bears the henceforth imperishable name and title of Prince Michael Gortschakoff. This appointment and change took effect practically on the 20th of March.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE. INCIDENTS IN IT, AND CONCOMINANT EVENTS IN EUROPE.

Long before this date the weather (for chronicling the changes of which with so much care a number of foolish jests were aimed at Lord Raglan, deriding him as the "barometrical chief," &c.), had mitigated its fury; and on the fine days, from the heights of the Allied Encampment, long convoys were seen over the town of Sebastopol, flowing in an interminable current from the great north road into the doomed fortress. By the end of the month the English and French commanders counted a hundred thousand combatants, though these were not all healthy. The English army, however, was so fast recovering from the horrors of the preceding winter, that, in four weeks more, General Canrobert announced its restored and perfect efficiency in a despatch to his own Government.

The general situation of the hostile forces was now what we before hinted: it was hard to say which side stood, which side pressed, the siege. The south front, indeed, of Sebastopol was closely beleaguered; but it was only one front of an enormous polygon, and, like those whom they assailed, the assailants had been obliged to fortify themselves not only in their front, but in their rear. They were pressing the enemy with unsurpassed valour and unexampled resources in one direction; but they were still kept at fierce bay in that direction, hemmed in themselves all round. For instance, on the 13th of the month (the day after Omer Pacha's presence became universally known in the Camp) the Russians showed so little solicitude regarding the immediate safety of the place, that they could spare a large force of cavalry and infantry, attended by 130 guns, to make a demonstration against Balaklava. It was but a demonstration; the British troops, with a French division under General Venoy being sufficient to deter a serious attack. Nevertheless, such movements served to keep the assailants on a con-

tinual alert, which was highly fatiguing, and to maintain among the enemy's troops the illusion that he was not really reduced to the defensive at all.

DESPERATE COMBATS IN CLOSE QUARTERS. STRATAGEMS AND DEVICES.

The same relative appearance was supported by him in the occurrences of the siege proper. In the first place, as we have already observed, the fortress, so far from shrinking inwards, or appearing to fall back on itself, under the urgency of the Allied approaches, had swung itself out to meet them. It seemed to dilate in its pride. If we were nearer the Russian exterior enceinte, or belt of counter-redoubts than before, this was not only because we had advanced, but because they also had advanced. The Mamelon was a deserted mound when the Allies began their parallels; it was now a formidable fort between them and the place, and required a preliminary siege in that part of the attack. Again, all the direct personal encounters with the garrison arose from his sorties, not from our assaults. The business was still to defend the trenches, not to storm the town. These sorties were almost always executed during the night, and they were numberless. They were often repeated for half-a-dozen nights in succession, in various and uncertain quarters, on a scale of incredible magnitude, and with astonishing desperation. From the middle to the end of March these nocturnal battles were nearly incessant. On the 22nd, for instance, fifteen thousand Russian soldiers sallied from their shelter under the right front of the Malakoff, and attacked the "attacks" of the French with the bayonet; and it will give some idea of the obstinate fury of the terrible combat which followed if we say that it lasted, more or less, for twenty-four hours. The Zouaves, meantime, had endeavoured to free the army from the annoyance of the Mamelon by one of the most persistently daring assaults on record; they were literally crushed by artillery, and so, at length, forced to quit their hold; as though a grasp should be subdued only by positively smashing and pulverising the hand which maintained it.

The besiegers then began to shell the Mamelon, but were surprised to notice how few of the fulminating projectiles which alit in that redoubt seemed to explode there. The reason was not discovered till the place was subsequently stormed by the Zouaves, when it was discovered that the ground was honeycombed with perpendicular tunnels,



THE APPROACH TO ST. PETERSBURG.



CAPTAIN HEWLETT, C.B., OF H.M.S. "EDINBURGH," DIRECTING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE "SNAPPER" AND "STORK" GUN-BOATS AT A RUSSIAN THREE-DECKER BETWEEN GUSTAFSVÆRN AND BARTHOLOMEW. SKETCHED BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.

gaping, trumpet-like, at the orifice, and presenting on every side a capacious decline, to receive and engulf the rolling shell, which, rushing into it with a whirl and a spin, burst innocuous far below in the compressing embrace of the solid earth. Nothing, in short, could well exceed the ingenuity of the enemy in defence. He was everywhere armed with the most unexpected resources of skill and forethought.

The space between his own rifle-pits and ours, and all the spots which he did not calculate on occupying in force, were sown with foot-mines: the technical name is "fougasses." A quantity of explosives were inclosed in a globe of tin, and this was attached to a tube of tin. The globe was buried some feet below the surface, the tube was allowed to emerge, and was so bent as to lie along the ground. Inside the tin tube near the top, was a glass phial containing an acid.

The pressure of a man's foot would break the phial and disengage the acid, which, running down, would encounter a few drops of a chemical, with which it would ignite; the explosive materials would immediately blow into the air the earth around them and whatever was above. The top of the tube by which this artificial volcano was made to act, remained hidden under a little rubbish until one of the Allied soldiers unsuspectingly trod upon it. To the Russian troops the fatal spot was marked by a bit of ribbon or rag of some preconceived colour, or by any other arranged sign.

SECOND BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

All this time both parties were indefatigably augmenting their respective means of destruction. Huge convoys were discerned on the 4th of April converging into the north of Sebastopol. On the other

hand, the cholera had entirely disappeared from the English army, which was fast resuming its martial condition and capabilities. The French soldiers had suffered severely, but the French army had never for one moment presented even the appearance of succumbing to the hardships and privations which ours had felt so overpowering. The reason is obvious. It is not that they, or any troops, could endure those trials better; but, in the first place, they had less to endure, and, in the second, their share was regularly distributed among a never-interrupted succession of reliefs which their numerical superiority enabled them to maintain. Thus, three French soldiers bore each a third part of what one English soldier bore; the three Frenchmen were greatly fatigued, but could be soon restored, when relieved; the Englishman, perhaps, was rendered useless for life when withdrawn.

At present both armies were efficient, and our Allies had abundantly



CAPTAIN GLASSE, AND HIS CHIEF ENGINEER, H.M.S. "VULTURE," SUPERINTENDING THE REPAIRS OF THE MORTARS DURING THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.—SKETCHED BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.

provided themselves with the arm in which they had previously been inferior. It wanted, on the 9th of April, only eight days of six months since the last general bombardment; and the besiegers had used the interval in accumulating far larger means than before. Our own artillery had not been so much increased in proportion as that of our allies, which had proved ridiculously inadequate on the 17th of October. They had now, instead of less than a hundred insignificant brass pieces, 300 siege guns. The alliance between Sardinia and the Porte had been signed at Constantinople in the preceding month; but, of course, no Sardinian troops had yet arrived upon the theatre of war. At five in the morning of Monday, the 9th of April, the bombardment commenced along the whole of the besiegers' lines. It was immeasurably more heavy than that of the previous winter; and this last—which, indeed, was the heaviest bombardment ever until then known in warfare—had been expected at the time to reduce the place. On the present occasion it was arranged that each piece should deliver 120 rounds a day, so that the French batteries alone threw thirty-six thousand shot of all kinds against the ramparts in the space of twenty-four hours. Before evening a manifest superiority of fire was established by the besiegers. Along the whole line of the defensive works, the Flagstaff and Garden Batteries alone replied quickly and spiritedly. At three o'clock the Mamelon was silenced altogether for the time; while but four guns continued to thunder from the Round Tower of the Malakoff, and but six from the Redan. A breach was effected between the centre and the Quarantine forts. The French then concentrated a terrible mass of fire against the two collections of batteries which we just now specified as retaining their activity; and of these the Flagstaff (*Bastion du Mât*) was reduced to silence before nightfall. Prince Gortschakoff admits a loss in his batteries, for this first day, of 833 killed, which would suppose 2500 wounded. When darkness fell upon the scene, shells and bombs relieved the horizontal ordnance all night long. This great effort to crush the place by artillery was sustained for three weeks; so prodigious had been the supply of ammunition prepared. Thus, at the time of the Emperor Napoleon's visit to London, which began on the 16th and terminated on the 22nd, this awful contest of artillery was raging at its very height. In the midst of it, our allies buried their gallant General Bizot: it was on the 16th, the very day of that Imperial visit which we have mentioned. On the same day our Allies burnt two Russian ships in the Sebastopol Creek. On the preceding day Prince Gortschakoff telegraphed to St. Petersburg that the place was deluged with "a fire of hell" (*feu d'enfer*). It is the first time the phrase occurs in his despatches. He was destined to use it again on a still more awful occasion, and under a far worse tempest of fire—one so awful that it needed not to be maintained for the same length of time.

Still the constancy of the enemy was not shaken. His workmen repaired the batteries at night; and the garrison, so far from disconcerting their sorties, redoubled them. On the 10th Omer Pacha visited Lord Raglan, and two councils of war were held at the English Commander's. Three days later the Russians sallied at ten in the evening upon the French left; the French repulsed them, and attacked in turn the defences near the sea. Twice they gained these, but twice had to retire. The bombardment never ceased for these incidents. On the 17th and 18th zigzags were opened and pushed forward in front of Gordon's Battery to within a hundred, or nearly a hundred, yards of the Redan, and about sixty of the Malakoff. There were two hostile rifle-pits in front of the former—one inside, or behind, the other. On the 19th and 21st the English took the first by the bayonet, and kept it; took the second in the same manner, and destroyed it.

Such were the main incidents of this unprecedented three weeks' bombardment, well described at the time as the most terrible ever known. On the 28th of April it was suspended, the ammunition being brought too low to risk what remained, and many of the guns being damaged. On that very day the naval blockade in the Baltic Sea was established; and on the next Pianori attempted to assassinate the Emperor Napoleon in Paris.

Soon after this, the Vienna Conference having ignominiously failed, and the counter-propositions of Austria having been rejected by England and France, M. Drouyn de Lhuys retired from the French Ministry.

VARIOUS ASSAULTS DURING THE SUMMER, KERTCH EXPEDITION, AND GENERAL HISTORY.

The interest of Europe in the siege augmented with the obstinacy and duration of the resistance, and with the recurrence of the bloody episodes which marked its progress. Between Varna and Balaklava, moreover, since the 28th of April, the electric wire was known to be flashing its messages under the sea; and the public entertained hopes of receiving from day to day accounts of events which should have hardly occurred at the theatre of war before they were to be announced at home.

On the 1st of May General Pelissier was ready to assault the Russian counter-approaches in front of the Bastion du Centre; but, it is said, that General Canrobert, on second thoughts, entertained a misgiving about the result, and wished to postpone the attempt. His subordinate would not consent to have prepared for nothing at all, and carried his battalions to the arduous business. The loss was severe, but the success complete. A dangerous starting-point for the sallies of the garrison was removed, the approaches were everywhere in the neighbourhood pushed forward with greater speed and greater security, and those in particular which were creeping about the Mamelon were rescued from the murderous effects of an occasional enfilading fire, which greatly retarded the works.

A more gallant soldier in the field than General Canrobert could not be named. He was, besides, highly efficient as a second in command, on account of the prompt, clean, decided style in which he handled a division. Weighted, however, with the responsibility of the supreme post, he was as slow and scrupulous in giving, as he would have been rapid and intelligent in executing, instructions. We have just seen one instance of his hesitancy, if not vacillating disposition, in the case of General Pelissier's arranged and ordered attack on the outworks of the Central Bastion. A greater example of his indecision now awaits us. It had been agreed between Lord Raglan and him that, if the Sea of Azoff could be forced, not only many prizes would be taken from, and much damage inflicted on, the enemy, but a large part of the supplies on which he depended, interrupted. Eight thousand French and five thousand English troops were accordingly embarked at Kamiesch and Balaklava respectively, and so dispatched on the 4th of May towards the Strait of Kertch. This movement did not escape the vigilant eyes which watched within the great stronghold; and on that very day Prince Gortschakoff telegraphed the fact to St. Petersburg. Just as the expeditionary squadron had sunk below the horizon came a warning voice from the Emperor Napoleon to General Canrobert, to hold his troops well together for some undertaking of magnitude. The General interpreted this order as inconsistent with, and condemnatory of, the deduction at that very moment of the troops which had sailed. He immediately countermanded by telegraph the expedition, and which accordingly returned on the 6th. The Emperor's direction, doubtless, referred to the bulk of the armies in camp, to the more or less straggling manner in which they might be posted, and to their total muster under arms. In about a fortnight the mistake was rectified, the expedition sailed again, and on the 24th of May forced the Strait of Yenikale. That place and Kertch were occupied. Arabat was reduced, Soujouk-Kaleh was evacuated; and Genitchi, at the extremity of the Spit so called, was bombarded by Captain Lyons. The whole of the Cimmerian Bosphorus was swept of all its merchant vessels, some hundreds in number; Taganrog, where the Czar Alexander had died, was cannonaded, and even the great lagoon of the Swash, or Putrid Sea, was penetrated and patrolled by the boats. Here they afterwards, at Gheisk, burnt along the coast a quantity of stacked corn sufficient to have fed fifty thousand men for six months. This brilliant series of successes was all effected before the end of the second week in June. On the 17th of May, meanwhile, the Russians had evacuated Petropaulovski on the Pacific, and embarked on board of two steamers and four merchantmen, took their stores and ammunition into the river Amoor. Meantime, two days after the first false start of the Azoff expedition General Canrobert had resigned his command into the hands of General Pelissier. It was the same day at ten in the forenoon that the Sardinians, 1500 strong, under General Della Marmora, arrived at Balaklava. On the preceding night, and on the three nights following in succession, the garrison of Sebastopol made the most furious and sanguinary sorties.

When General Pelissier had been about ten days in command, his superior vigour began to be felt. As the Russians had on the Allied right flung out the Mamelon, so on the left, over the sea, they had constructed an immense and truly strong excavated fortification among the rocks, where they had sapped forward in a manner to collect, under seemingly impregnable protections, a whole army, with advantages for rallying which might have proved most dangerous. The entire position overlapped and paralysed the left of the French army. General Pelissier attacked it on the night of the 22nd with twelve battalions, who found the enormous labyrinth garrisoned by about seventeen. The most terrible conflict which had yet taken place occupied the night. Towards morning the French, who had carried half the works, had turned them against the defenders; next night they stormed the rest, reversing them in the same manner.

June was an eventful month. On the 5th, in the Baltic, occurred the massacre at Hango Point, of which the details are familiar to everybody. Under an English flag of truce, dispatched on an errand of kindness and deliverance, English sailors, and Russian subjects about to be generously restored to their country, were foully butchered by the countrymen of a part of the victims. On that same day the legions of the Czar thought it prudent to evacuate Anapa, and retire behind the Kauban; and soon afterwards they blew up all their forts on the eastern shore of the Black Sea, withdrawing the much-needed garrisons to reinforce the corps in campaign, or else to swell the forces of Generals Bragatton-Macrausky, Bebutoff, and Mouravieff, who were about to operate actively in Armenia.

On the 7th, after twenty-four hours of renewed bombardment, the besiegers of Sebastopol stormed the Quarries in front of the Great Redan and the Mamelon. Colonel Brancion, a most promising French officer, was killed as he planted the tricolor on the Mamelon, and so bequeathed to it his name: it is called the Brancion Redoubt. These were the last of the real outworks of the Russians; and by their fall the Allies had at last forced their way face to face with Sebastopol. They lost no time in trying its strength. On the night of the 17th, the *Sidon*, *Princess Royal*, and *Miranda*, in conjunction with a division of French steamers, made a spirited attack on the sea forts. It was here that Captain Lyons received his last wound. On the 18th was adventured the fatal assault in which the Allies sustained their very first genuine repulse since the commencement of the colossal war. The French were beaten with frightful slaughter from the Malakoff, after stupendous efforts of persevering valour. Our men who advanced later, were pounded by a side fire from the Russian right of that work, and shattered in front by the batteries of the Redan, before they ever reached that place. Nevertheless the Royal Irish, slipping down into a hollow road to the left, there met a few companies of French, passed on, stormed the defences at (as they approached it) the left flank of the Redan, stormed the Barrack Batteries, and, bayonet still in hand, dropped out of view among the houses of the suburb, where they literally held their ground for eighteen hours. They then made their way back to the trenches. Had they been supported it is impossible to say what might not have ensued. Our loss was 251 killed, of whom twenty-one were officers; and 1200 wounded, of whom seventy were officers: twenty-two of all ranks were missing. The cause of this double failure of the French and English was the excessive length of the open which the storming columns had to cross ere coming to push of bayonet. The Generals resolved now to sap up to the very foot of the Russian ramparts. But Lord Raglan, who was already in bad health, could not surmount the moral effect produced in his mind and spirits by this first repulse. He sank fast, and on the 28th expired. General Simpson assumed the vacant post.

NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC AND BLACK SEAS.

In the Sea of Azoff the work of destruction and prize-taking continued for about two months on all the coasts, north, east, and west. Not a town but was visited.

In the Baltic, so early as the 7th of May, the *Archer* and *Geyser* captured eight Russian ships off Riga. On the 21st of the following month the masked battery of Nystadt was destroyed. Innumerable prizes of small value continued to be taken, the Russian fleets never once daring to come from behind the granite fortifications. At last, on the 9th of August, the Allied fleets moored off Sveaborg, and sent in their gun and mortar boats to bombard the place. For ninety-six hours only their ammunition lasted; and, indeed, the very ordnance had then suffered crystallisation, and threatened to burst. The loss of the enemy is stated to have amounted to 2000 men. Numberless stores, barracks, magazines, Government buildings, and part of the Arsenal were burnt. The whole place seemed one huge fire. The Allies had, we believe, about ten or a dozen men wounded slightly. A week later there was a skirmish between the *Bulldog*, *Magicienne*, and *Centaure*, and six Russian gun-boats. This terminated operations in the north of Europe.

BATTLE OF TRAKTIR-BRIDGE ON THE TCHERNAYA.

The garrison of Sebastopol having failed on the 2nd of August in a desperate attempt to force the Allied lines by the Woronzoff Road, remained inactive only in appearance. They were ready for a new Balaklava and a new Inkerman all in one, so far as the strategic movement is concerned. In August the Tchernaya is fordable at many points, well known, of course, to the enemy. On the 16th of that month they debouched from the Tchouliou Heights, and descended to the Tchernaya in the neighbourhood of Traktir-bridge. Behind this bridge rise at a little distance the Fediukine hills, on which rested the rear of the French army, which now faced about. To their right were the Sardinians,—to theirs the Turks. Beyond the river, and under Tchouliou hills is a valley, along which advanced the Russian masses, driving the outposts of the Sardinian Bersaglieri, or sharpshooters. About 1500 Zouaves and Chasseurs guarded the bridge: they were attacked by 10,000 Russians, under General Read. For an hour the 1500 held the 10,000 beneath the storm of artillery which poured upon their dense columns from one English battery and from the Sardinian and French artillery. At last, the Russians swarmed over the fords, forced the bridge, and slowly pushed the brave Zouaves up the hill; but executed this movement painfully, out of breath, in disorder, and rent by ordnance. At the hill's brow the main body of the French received in their openings comrades worthy of Leonidas, who, turning, and now backed by strong columns, charged bayonets down the declivity. Twice the enemy rallied, but in vain. The Sardinians and French made a final rush, and drove them with carnage upon their supports, who were thus disarrayed. The artillery reopened, and the battle was won. General Scarlett's dragoons came up at this moment; but General Pelissier deemed pursuit unwise. The enemy retired on Mackenzie's Farm. He left on the field a quantity of fascines, planks, beams, ladders, and sappers' tools, destined to destroy the works of the besiegers. He left also 2500 dead; and 1620 of his wounded were that night in the ambulances of the French, who took, in addition, 500 prisoners. They themselves lost 180 killed, and 810 wounded—chiefly on and near the bridge. This great battle occurred the day succeeding the First Napoleon's natal anniversary, and the fête day of the French Empire. It was on that very morning that the Queen of England set out to pay the first Royal visit ever made by English Monarch to a Sovereign of that warlike dynasty. It seemed as if events both in the East and in the West were conspiring to raise to the highest point the glory of the Napoleon destinies at one and the same hour.

The Baltic fleets—whose loss in the recent bombardment of Sveaborg had, as Admiral Pénard wrote to his Government "been insignificant in men and nothing in materials," were at this epoch withdrawn towards Narva. But it is a most curious coincidence that, on the very day when they appeared off Sveaborg, the Russians, two thousand miles away, at the opposite side of the huge area of hostilities, with the whole continent of Europe between the two scenes, invested Kars, on the frontier of Armenia. On the 7th of August their squadrons were patrolling at Capriccio, across the Erzerum road, quite to the rear of the devoted fortress.

FALL OF SEBASTOPOL.

September was the month of great catastrophes. By the 23rd of the previous August the French had sapped up to the very foot of the Malakoff Tower; and fully completed their approaches by repelling that day from a Russian ambuscade which they had already stormed upon the glacis, a sudden and furious sortie of the garrison. These left five hundred dead bodies strewn over the neighbourhood of a post which

no effort could regain. The guards in the French trenches could now, without leaving them, place a hand upon the incline of the tremendous tower the strength of which they were so soon to try.

The 5th of September arrived. The preparations were complete for an indescribable and inconceivable bombardment, which was to surpass the previous bombardments as signally as they surpassed all former efforts of artillery. This was to be the supreme experiment in that order or plan which had hitherto more or less governed the proceedings of the assailants.

The siege had now continued eleven months and six days, when, at dawn on the 5th, the batteries opened for the last time with 800 heavy guns and 150 large mortars.

In all attempts of this nature the horizontal and the vertical fire had been alternate. Here, they were combined. The consequence was, that, while the casemates were battered, the guns dismounted, the carriages smashed, the parapets blown in, the ditches encumbered with falling rubbish, and bridged over, the defenders were at the same time driven from the embrasures, and hindered from replying effectually. That was one difference from all antecedent bombardments. Another was still more important: the fire was not even—not directed in a steady, sustained hurricane of destruction; it blew fitfully and in gusts. One result of this was that the enemy emerged repeatedly from their bomb-proof coverts, only to meet the storm of ruin which they thought had abated, but which revived. A second result was to ensure the character of a surprise to the assault whenever it should thereafter be made. Had the fire been consecutive, supported evenly, then the moment it ceased in order to allow the storming columns to go up, the ramparts would have swarmed with defenders. But, as it had already ceased a dozen times for a few minutes, and as, on each of these occasions, the Russian Guards had emerged only to be overwhelmed with the renewal of the burning tempest, they lay close at the last and fatal moment. It was the old nursery tale exemplified of "Wolf! wolf!" On the eternal moral truth conveyed in that little apologue, the stratagem which laid the place low, was founded.

Such was the second grand distinction between the present and the former bombardments. But there was a third distinction, and this third distinction was the most important of all. It was the prodigious force and weight of fire now brought to bear on the fortress. The April cannonade had astonished all Europe by its fury and magnitude; but yet during nineteen days, at a rough computation, the number of projectiles hurled against the place was only 36,000. Now in this last bombardment, during less than a sixth of the time, that is during three days, the number of shells alone was upwards of 60,000; while simultaneously the horizontal discharges sent 96,000 cannon-balls among the defences. Strong and proud as was the giant fastness, it bowed; it was bent, it was crushed, under this overwhelming union of the elements which wreak destruction. While the level storm swept against its face, the vertical storm descended. There was a hurricane of fire, and there was a deluge of fire. Well might the stern Russian soldier who stood erect amidst these days of doom call that unearthlike paroxysm of ordnance "a fire of hell." Nothing could live against it; nothing could stand against it; and nothing could be repaired while it lasted.

On the 8th there was a lull. The grey-coats teemed out of the cavernous shelters. Again flamed up the convergent blaze, again shook every cliff and every edifice with the redoubled thunders. No living thing remained upon the ramparts. A fiercer crash than ever was succeeded by a momentary pause. Ere the echoes died away Sebastopol had fallen. In loose, light, floating order, scarce seen amidst the smoke, not heard amidst the din, like the blue wreaths of an exhalation, rapid, fleeting, wave upon wave of ranks appeared for an instant passing shadowily up the face of the Malakoff, and vanished within. Looking more attentively through the glass, the spectator saw myriads of Zouaves and Chasseurs fast supported, some with long poles, armed crook-wise at the top, swinging themselves over the parapets, clambering across the choked-up ditch, descending into it, emerging on the further side, creeping round the ledge of the rampart, and disappearing in the embrasures and the breach. It was like a dream or a vision; it was a half-minute's diorama. But eleven months of toil were over; the work was done. Then faintly came the clash of steel, the distant mutter of a deadly struggle, the sharp, irregular ring of rifles. But the pickaxe and the hatchet had gone up as well as the bayonet; an intrenchment was formed; the traverses were intercepted; the wires of the mines were cut. The enemy had been found playing cards and taking refreshments in the bomb-proofs. The rule of Sebastopol had passed to the stranger. Scarcely one man of the assailants fell in the critical and conclusive assault, though they lost thousands in the others.

It was our turn. Our part remained to perform. The Light Division was no longer the Light Division which had rushed with such magnificent enthusiasm up the heights of the Alma. The veterans were nearly all replaced by raw youths not yet fully disciplined. This division was selected for the assault of the Redan. Their advanced party went against the salient, climbed into it, and then, instead of advancing as their officers wished them, to charge the breastwork drawn across its base, they began to exchange musket shots with the defenders. These were sheltered behind their work, besides lining a considerable width of ground, whereas the assailants were huddled in the narrow corner or apex of the salient. A few had got uselessly into isolated corners of the side batteries. Meanwhile the supports could not be brought up. There were about two hundred yards of "open" to cross from the English trenches, which were, besides, in that spot too narrow for good formation. This space was swept by three lines of fire at least which converged there. Colonel (now Major-General) Windham sent officer after officer; and, at last, went himself for the convoked and expected reinforcements. Before he could bring back any help the Russians behind the breastwork "did what our men should have done"—charged bayonets; and our position in the Redan was definitively lost. A Redan means a fort open at the base or rear; and the beaten defenders of the Malakoff had, by this time, thronged in irresistible numbers into the place; so that the very success of our gallant allies rendered ours, at that moment, only additionally difficult. The assault was to have been renewed next morning; but next morning the enemy was on the further side of Inkerman Creek, Prince Gortschakoff having, with astonishing skill, order, constancy, and firmness, withdrawn his whole army during the night over a bridge of boats, which he destroyed at nine of the forenoon. He set fire to the town on evacuating it; he quitted it as the fiend quits the demoniac, rending and ravaging the habitation from which he is expelled.

The Russian hospital, filled with sick and wounded, was found in a horrible state of stench and neglect. It was exposed to fire. The amount of ammunition and stores captured was very great. The number of guns alone was twice what General Pelissier supposed when he wrote the following striking account with which we may properly close our own:—

Thus terminated this memorable siege, during which the relieving army was twice beaten in the open field, and the means of defence and attack of which had assumed colossal proportions. The besieging army had in its different attacks, about 800 guns in battery, which fired more than 1,600,000 rounds, and our approaches, dug during 336 days of open trenches, through a rocky ground, with a development of more than eighty-six kilometres (sixty miles), were made under the constant fire of the place, and with incessant combats by day and night.

The day of the 5th September, on which the Allies gained the mastery of an army almost equal in number, not invested, intrenched behind formidable defences, provided with more than 1100 cannon, protected by the guns of the fleet, and the north batteries still retaining enormous resources, will remain an example of what may be expected of a brave disciplined army hardened by war.

The French lost, on this occasion, in killed and wounded, nearly 8000 men, of whom nine were generals, and forty-four were superior officers. The English had 1786 wounded, of whom 124 were officers; and 375 killed, of whom twenty-nine were officers.

On the first day of the last bombardment, the Russian two-decker, *Marian*, had been burnt by a shell from the French right attack. The rest of the fleet Prince Gortschakoff himself sank on his evacuation. They consisted of seventeen ships of the line, seven frigates, and various smaller vessels of war.

The docks were afterwards destroyed by the engineers of the Allies. It took three months to blow up the southern docks, which it fell to the English share to demolish.

OPERATIONS AT THE LIMAN OF THE DNIÉPER AND BUG; AND WAR IN ASIA.

On the 4th of September, the very day before the final bombardment of the Crimean stronghold, Omer Pacha at length, after much suit

made at Constantinople, and much importunity for the aid of the English transport service, obtained an arrangement by which his army could be conveyed by instalments, at least, to the eastern shore of the Black Sea. Not knowing how reduced were the provisions of the heroic garrison at Kars, or how little chance there was of any direct relief being sent to them from Trebizond and Erzeroum, he proposed to effect a grand diversion in their favour; and, at the same time, change the whole aspect of the Asiatic war. It is probable that, had Kars been in the condition which he supposed, no better plan could have been selected. Preceding first himself to Abasia, he fixed on Soukoun Kaleh as the fittest place for debarkation. He then returned to hasten the transport of his troops; but the fleets were then very busy, not only with the conveyance of supplies for the immense camps established on so many far-reparated points, but with the transport hither and thither of large expeditionary detachments.

The most important of these went to the delta of the Boug and Dniéper, where, near their confluent estuaries, Orshakoff on the retreating northern, and Kinburn on the projecting southern bank, defended the approach from the west, to the dockyards of Nicolaïeff, and of Kherson. On the 17th of October the garrison of Kinburn, 1500 strong, under Major-General Kokonovitch, surrendered to the Allies, who, having disembarked some troops to the north, bombarded the place both by sea and land. The French—still beforehand with us—here brought into action, for the first time in warfare, the new floating batteries invented by the Emperor Napoleon III. They succeeded admirably, the balls of the fortress, which mounted 174 guns, rebounding innocuously from their crab-like shells, at a range of only 800 yards. Orshakoff was then blown up and evacuated by the Russians.

Three weeks before this occurred the cavalry combat of Khougill, fifteen miles north-east of Eupatoria, between the Cossacks of General Korff and the French horse under General d'Altonville. On the very same day, the 29th of September, at the other side of the Euxine, General Mouravieff, having learnt the fall of Sebastopol, and wishing to expiate that dishonour, assaulted Kars with his whole infantry. The battle lasted eight hours, the Russian masses displaying the greatest stubbornness as they advanced under the well-arranged fire of the Turkish guns. At last, beaten everywhere, they were assailed in turn by the garrison which had scarcely yet been under fire; the confused and fatigued assailants could not make head against this sortie, and were driven to seek shelter under the protection of their numerous and powerful cavalry, leaving eight thousand dead in the trenches and near them.

It was at this time that Omer Pacha, gradually overcoming the difficulties of that deficiency in transports to which we have adverted, found himself at the head of about 15,000 troops in Abasia, a good many of these being his own trustworthy veterans. He had gradually edged them down towards Redoubt Kaleh, which he fixed on as his basis of operations. On the 30th September was secured, and, having driven in the Russian outposts from Sogdidi and endeavoured to open relations with Schamyl, while concluding the Princess Daxian and the Christian population in his own neighbourhood, he moved inland in a south-eastern direction. But, owing to the difficulties of the country, which is an entanglement of woods interspersed with very rich but neglected farm lands, and owing still more to the precariousness and uncertainty of any supplies from the inhabitants, his progress was extremely slow. He did all that lay in his power, purchasing provisions in every direction, and organising, as his principal resource, a regular commissariat at Redoubt Kaleh. The river Phasis, which flows from the Caucasus to the Euxine, is navigable for nearly a hundred miles from the sea; and he had hoped to have availed himself of this channel for important manœuvres. His plan was this:—The first strong Russian post was at Kutais, where the great high road—by Gori, into Georgia, and down to Tiflis—would take his advancing columns over the celebrated Soorem Pass. Once master of Kutais, and with his communications well secured upon the Black Sea along his rear line, he hoped either to be able to defeat all the local Russian garrisons and posts between Soorem and the capital of the fertile province lying beyond and below it, or else to recall by the terror of his progress the army of General Mouravieff, then menacing Armenia, and beleaguering Kars. In either case a great blow would be struck, and the hard-pressed troops of General Williams relieved. Then, should it even prove too late to advance permanently that year beyond Mingrelia, he could at least strengthen himself in Kutais, make it his new centre for future operations, and call up, meantime, additional forces for the campaign of spring. General Mouravieff would then be pressed from the side of Armenia, where he was now acting offensively, and from the side of Imeretia, on which he would be thrown also upon the defensive. But it was already too late; and the Russian chief knew it. Well informed of the true state of the Kars garrison, he never disquieted himself, or in the slightest altered his plans, in consequence of Omer Pacha's diversion. Should the Muchir even beat the militia which now guarded the northern gorges of Georgia, he felt sure that it would all come to the same result. The season, the floods, scarcity, would compel the victor to retreat; much more would such become his necessity, if, in the interim, he, General Mouravieff, should succeed in reducing Kars, and, while thus liberating his own army for an encounter with the Ottoman, should rob the latter of the chief motive which prompted this venturesome advance by depriving it of its character as a diversion. Indeed, in such a contingency, the further Omer might have penetrated the worse would perhaps be his situation; since General Mouravieff, by not returning directly towards Tiflis (which would be rather better able than Kars to stand a siege in its turn and to hold any assailant in play), but, by moving diagonally, north-east by north, along the excellent Russian line from Alexandropol to Akhazik, would himself take Omer Pacha in flank and rear, shatter his line of communication, overwhelm his detached supports, and cut him off from the sea.

For these reasons, General Mouravieff tranquilly and steadily persisted in the blockade of Kars; and never for a moment showed any inclination to turn aside to face the Turkish invader. A month and seven days had now elapsed since the assault on Kars was repulsed so gloriously, when Omer Pacha at length brought his labouring columns through the myr woodslands as far as the Ingour. There he saw, for the first time, a regular stand prepared by two enemy, about twelve thousand strong, intrenched on the opposite bank, and commanding the passage by batteries. They were chiefly the Russian militia of Georgia, and were under the command of General Bragation-Makrasky. The Turks had some twenty thousand men. The stream was barely fordable in half-a-dozen places, by which the enemy's intrenchments could be turned. The Turks passed it, up to their arm-pits in water, holding their muskets aloft; our countrymen—Colonel Ballard, Captain Dymek, and others—showing a splendid example worthy of English officers. The engagement lasted five hours, when the Russians fled, leaving behind them sixty prisoners, five gun carriages and ammunition carts, and 400 killed. They appear to have carried off their wounded. Omer Pacha had 220 wounded and 68 killed. Pressing on the track of the fugitives he came up with them again before the end of November, within sight of Kutais, and obtained another advantage. But the floods had come; the Phasis had assumed the dimensions of a torrent; great forest trees were swept down the stream as if they were reeds—now engulfed out of sight in the eddies, now reappearing on the surface for a moment as they were borne away; the roads were impassable to artillery, and almost to infantry; the whole country was transformed into an alternation of morass and lagoon; a day's march was the work of a week; the troops were broken up and islanded, as it were, into helpless detachments; the commissariat could not act; the supplies arrived with greater and greater irregularity, incertitude, and insufficiency from day to day; the whole army was suffering incredible hardships and privations; it was threatened with annihilation unless a retrograde movement were promptly made; and, finally, came the news that Kars had succumbed at last. The conquerors, therefore, retired, unpursued, and gradually straggled back to Redoubt Kaleh, where Omer Pacha soon succeeded in restoring their tone and refreshing their energies.

So ended the war of 1855 with Russia; for this was really its last incident, General Mouravieff having already dismantled the fortifications of Kars, and withdrawn the bulk of his forces to Gumri. It was on the 28th of November that General Williams at last surrendered to him the stubborn Armenian fortress. The heroic garrison had long been macerated by the failure of rations and by disease. Even their ammunition was expended. In another assault on the day of their surrender they would have had no means of firing half a dozen rounds from their guns, and they

were completely past the power of personal resistance as a body, being unable to wield their weapons, and hardly able to stand erect. They had borne literally the fiercest extremities of famine. They were now a corps of spectres, with scarcely the strength to speak. Yet these men had furnished indiscriminately the sentinels who had mounted guard over the little pile of half-rotten farina which was to be doled out in a biscuit a day for each; and the trusty sentries never touched the food which was the sole remaining common stock. Under such circumstances it was that General Williams rode out with a flag of truce, and told Prince Mouravieff that he would surrender Kars provided all the courtesies and honours of war were conceded to the garrison. General Kmetz and some few attendants had tried a different expedient—they stole out and cut their way through the leaguer on the only serviceable horses left.

Mouravieff listened with attention to General Williams, who threatened, if his various stipulations were not granted, to burst every gun and destroy every military trophy still extant in Kars. The Russian chief replied with chivalrous warmth and visible emotion as he looked at the emaciated hero, that all, all was granted, and that he was proud as an enemy to testify that General Williams and those under him had immortalised themselves. Nothing, in short, could surpass the nobility of sentiment displayed (both then and in the subsequent treatment of the prisoners) by Prince Mouravieff and the Russian army.

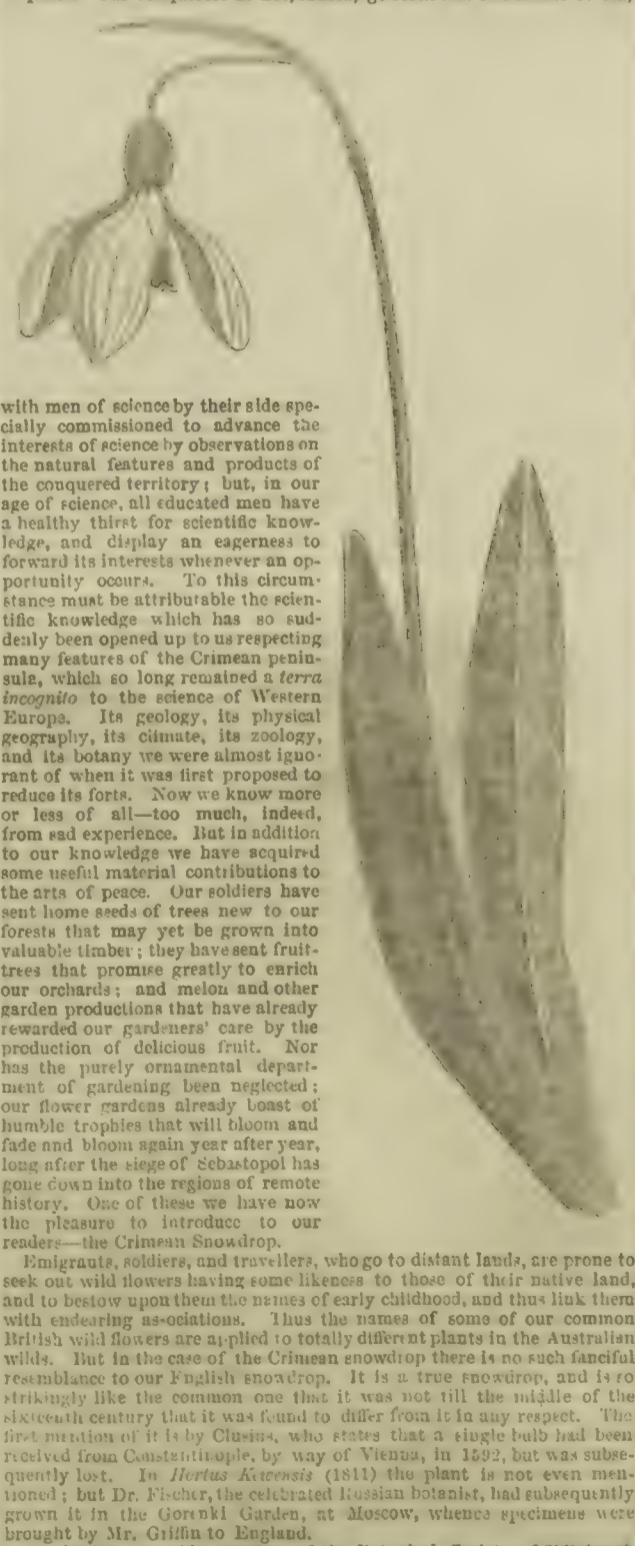
During the lull which winter now imposed upon hostilities Austria ascertained from the Western Powers what were the lowest conditions they would accept from Russia as the price of peace. These in principle amounted to the cession of all the pretensions which had provoked the war, and material guarantees against any renewal of such pretensions on the part of Russia. No more Greek protectorates; no fortresses on the Euxine or commanding it; no ships of war there; freedom of its waters to the commerce of all nations; no rebuilding of Bomarsund; the surrender of the Russian territory hitherto enthralling the mouths of the Danube; the dismantling of all arsenals on the great rivers within navigable distance of the Euxine; and all further provisions necessary to bring these general terms into practical effect.

Austria sent these propositions to St. Petersburg by Count Valentin Esterhazy on the 1st of the new year, giving Russia fourteen days to accept or reject, but not to modify them. The Czar sent counter propositions. Count Buol would not even hear them. At last, on the 15th the Czar telegraphed to Prince Gortschakoff at Vienna that the conditions were accepted without reserve. Paris was chosen as the scene of a Conference. Count Orloff and Baron Brunnow for Russia met the Representatives of France, England, Sardinia, Turkey, and Austria. An armistice was proclaimed till the 31st of March. Prussia was afterwards admitted by courtesy to ratify, but not to deliberate on, the essential preliminaries. At last, on the day before that when the armistice was to have closed, peace recommenced. The general conditions were all amicably settled: some of the smaller details were referred to the care of future executive commissions—one to adjust the Danubian cession of territory, another to define the frontier question of Armenia in Asia Minor. All the labours of the Congress were performed in less than a score of meetings; and, at two o'clock on Sunday, the 30th of March—just two years and two days after the declaration of war by the Western Powers—this great settlement of Europe and Asia was proclaimed. The instrument which had figured most largely in the prosecution of hostilities was that which announced their termination to the public, and at ten at night London heard and understood the expected salvoes of artillery.

M. G. K.

CRIMEAN SNOWDROP.

WHILE our brave soldiers have been fighting our battles in the Crimea the din and glory of war have not banished from their thoughts the arts of peace. Our conquerors do not, indeed, go forth like Alexander of old,



with men of science by their side specially commissioned to advance the interests of science by observations on the natural features and products of the conquered territory; but, in our age of science, all educated men have a healthy thirst for scientific knowledge, and display an eagerness to forward its interests whenever an opportunity occurs. To this circumstance must be attributable the scientific knowledge which has so suddenly been opened up to us respecting many features of the Crimean peninsula, which so long remained a terra incognita to the science of Western Europe. Its geology, its physical geography, its climate, its zoology, and its botany we were almost ignorant of when it was first proposed to reduce its forts. Now we know more or less of all—too much, indeed, from sad experience. But in addition to our knowledge we have acquired some useful material contributions to the arts of peace. Our soldiers have sent home seeds of trees new to our forests that may yet be grown into valuable timber; they have sent fruit-trees that promise greatly to enrich our orchards; and melon and other garden productions that have already rewarded our gardeners' care by the production of delicious fruit. Nor has the purely ornamental department of gardening been neglected; our flower gardens already boast of humble trophies that will bloom and fade and bloom again year after year, long after the siege of Sebastopol has gone down into the regions of remote history. One of these we have now the pleasure to introduce to our readers—the Crimean Snowdrop.

Emigrants, soldiers, and travellers, who go to distant lands, are prone to seek out wild flowers having some likeness to those of their native land, and to bestow upon them the names of early childhood, and thus link them with endearing associations. Thus the names of some of our common British wild flowers are applied to totally different plants in the Australian wilds. But in the case of the Crimean snowdrop there is no such fanciful resemblance to our English snowdrop. It is a true snowdrop, and is so strikingly like the common one that it was not till the middle of the sixteenth century that it was found to differ from it in any respect. The first mention of it is by Clusius, who states that a single bulb had been received from Constantinople, by way of Vienna, in 1592, but was subsequently lost. In *Hortus Kicensis* (1811) the plant is not even mentioned; but Dr. Fischer, the celebrated Russian botanist, had subsequently grown it in the Gorenki Garden, at Moscow, whence specimens were brought by Mr. Griffin to England.

At the last monthly meeting of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh (February, 1856) Mr. Mehal exhibited from the Botanic Garden plants in flower of the Crimean snowdrop, which had been raised from roots col-

lected in the Crimea by Dr. Sinclair. The scientific history and characters of this plant may be briefly alluded to. It is the *Galanthus plicatus* of Marshall & Bieberstein (Fl. Altae, Flor. Ind. Taur.). It is mentioned by Clusius, in *Historia Rariorum Stirpium Pannoniae*; and good figures and descriptions have been given in *Bot. Mag.*, t. 2162; and *Bot. Reg.*, 545. There is an early notice in *Rai. Hist.*, 1114.

The Crimean snowdrop is well distinguished from the common one by several essential characters, although its general appearance is so similar as to have caused it to be long overlooked as a distinct species. It is in every respect a larger and stouter plant than the English snowdrop; the outer divisions of the perianth (flower) are nearly twice the size, and it is as fragrant as the spring leucocum. The green markings on the inner divisions of the perianth are larger, and the flower-stalk is stouter, but sometimes scarcely so long as the common kind; indeed in one variety of *Galanthus plicatus* the spathe, which at first incloses the flowers, is longer than the flower stalk. But the leading features of distinction are found in the leaves of the *Galanthus plicatus*. These are very broad, more like the leaves of a narcissus than of a snowdrop, and they are furnished with two curious plate, which run longitudinally from the base to the apex of the leaf near its margins.

Poets and writers on the language and poetry of flowers tell us that the English snowdrop is the emblem of "adventurous friendship" and of "consolation." We pretend not to be deeply versed in that mysterious department of philological learning called the emblematical language of flowers, and ought to be wary, therefore, in recommending innovations; but we may fairly anticipate the sympathy of our readers in recommending the extension of the same "sentiment" to the Crimean flower which is enjoyed by its English relative. If the "first pale blossom," "the early herald of the infant year," proves a "consolation" to us prosa and poets who peep at rough nature through the window-pane in earliest spring-time, ere the snows have gone—how much more eloquently would the fragile snowdrop speak of returning spring-time to the hearts of our noble soldiers while they were perishing in thousands under the rigour of a Crimean winter! We at home view the snowdrop, buffeted by the ruthless storm, as the "herald of a brighter bloom." "Pleased we hail thee spotless blossom," for thou art rich in promise of green fields and flowery meads, singing birds, bright skies, and sylvan beauty! Thou bearest the welcome tidings of the coming of thy fair sister, the lily of the valley; and of her meet companions in the May wreath, fair narcissus by the mirrory waters, and the dancing daffodil of the woodland glade! But to the Crimean hero, bent down in disease and sorrow, far from home, and friends, and help—death and desolation all around him—no ray of hope to dispel the dark visions of his soul, thou, beneficent flower! burst through the snow-wreath like a resurrection from the dead, to cheer his desolate heart, to whisper of coming succour, of brighter skies, of comfort and plenty, and glory in the field. Thou wert, indeed, "a flower of consolation" to him—a star of hope, "bright as a star when only one is shining in the sky." "God," saith Wordsworth,

Made the flowers to beautify
The earth and cheer man's careful mood,
And he is happier who hath power
To gather wisdom from a flower,
And wake his heart in every hour
To pleasant gratitude.

And this flower of the Crimea, the "Oriental Snowdrop," will in time to come oft realise that beautiful simile of Shelley, of—

A pale flower by some sad maiden cherished,
And fed with true love tears instead of dew.

It will become a "memory's flower," for many a dear friend who has gone down into a cold, cold grave in the service of his country.

It only remains for us to add that the kindness of Professor Balfour and Mr. McNab, of the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, has enabled us to give the accompanying drawing of this interesting plant, and that we are indebted to these gentlemen for some of the facts stated.

A WOMAN 100 YEARS OLD.—There is at present living in Bancroft-road, King-street, Farnworth, a woman named Betty Pearson, who has attained the extraordinary age of 100 years. She was born at Bedford, near Leigh, on the 21st of December, 1755, and baptised at Culcheth-hall, near Warrington, there being no place of worship in that district at the time, and from which latter place her register of baptism has since been procured. Mrs. Pearson has been married twice. She was united to her first husband at the age of 24, and during his lifetime she had 11 children, he having now been dead 55 years. She had one child by her second husband, who also died 25 years ago. She has resided at Astley, in the same house, for the long period of forty years; but until very recently she resided at the White Horse in Leigh, serving in the capacity of "barmaid," and creating no small amount of curiosity among those who saw her while there. Her seventh child, a daughter, became the mother of 16 children, 10 of whom were born in the short period of 10 years. The daughter with whom she at present resides is the youngest of the 11 children, and is in her 60th year, having had 15 children, 12 of whom are now living. Mrs. Pearson has lived to see 25 grandchildren, 50 of her grandchildren's children, and 12 of their children, her great-grand-children—in all 87 persons. She has been of very temperate habits, living on the plainest food, and during her early life was accustomed (using her own words) "to carding and spinning wool on her knee." She worked as a hand-loom weaver until 20 years of age. Her sight and other faculties are as good as those of most people of 70; having only lost two teeth, she is able to crack nuts with the greatest ease. She is in good health.—*Manchester Guardian*.

A PUBLIC PARK IN NEW YORK.—It is now definitively settled that New York city is to have one of the largest and finest parks in the world. It was feared for many years that this park never would be laid out. The chief obstacle to it was the natural construction of the island, which admitted of no place near the centre of population sufficiently large to be worthy of the name, since the island is so narrow that a park of large extent in any one place would cut the city in two. The expense, from the immense value of real estate, would be a heavy burden upon the municipality, and there was so little interest felt in the subject that only a few enthusiasts indulged in the dream. But the appropriation has been made. The park has been surveyed. The ground has been devoted to that purpose, and at an expense which is now known to reach some 8,000,000 dollars, with other expenses for adornment, which will probably extend to several millions more. The great work is now being put under way. The whole area of the park will be about 800 acres. It will stand nearly in the centre of Manhattan Island, on which New York stands, and over the whole of which its municipal authority extends. It will stretch through more than half of the breadth of the island from the Hudson to the East river in its widest part. It is wild and romantic in its scenery, and if it is laid out with taste will make altogether the most picturesque, wild, and romantic city drive there is within the limits of any great town in the world.—*Letter from New York*.

A GHOST STORY.—A curious adventure has taken place in a district close at hand. The family of a peasant, who inhabits a solitary house in the fields, were celebrating the birth of a child. The happy father, in the excess of his joy, confided to the midwife the secret of his having saved up the sum of eighty dollars for the baptismal feast. A few days before the feast a figure made its appearance wrapped up in a bull's hide, with horns on its head, and, announcing itself as "the devil," demanded of the parents their new-born child. The father and mother groaned with distress, upon which the stranger consented to receive, instead of the child, a sum of eighty dollars, which were told out to him. He then inquired where they kept their provisions. They referred him to the loft. Whilst he was unhooking their sausages and pieces of bacon, a sportsman of the neighbourhood happened to look in, when he found the parents kneeling at their prayers. The peasant informed him that a terrible personage was in the house. The sportsman instantly mounted the staircase, crying out, "Who goes there?" A deep bass voice replied, "The devil!" The sportsman raised his gun to take aim, but at the noise the stranger called out, "For heaven's sake don't fire! I am N. N." It was the midwife's husband, and he is at this moment in prison.—*Person Gazette*.

VALUE OF LANDED PROPERTY IN SYDNEY.—As an evidence of the healthy state of money matters in this city, and in confirmation of the opinion so often expressed that property in good situations will always maintain its value, we may mention that at a Government land sale which took place on Tuesday, the 27th November, the Sydney Insurance Company purchased the corner allotment of Hunter-street and New-street at £101 per foot—being a price unheard of before in this city, the rate per acre being £70,000. Other lots sold at the same time, and in the same line of street, but in less advantageous parts of it, realising from £45 to £75 per foot, and the land disposed of yielding all overhead an average of £32,152 13s. per acre. When completed New Pitt-street will be the finest street in Sydney.

LANE SALE OF NEGROES.—The *Washington Daily Union*, of the 12th March, has an auctioneer's advertisement, commencing—"On the first Monday in April next (the 7th), I will sell, at Cahawba, Dallas county, Ala., to the highest bidder, for cash, or Mobile 'acceptances,' at sixty or ninety days, bearing interest, one hundred and fifty likely negroes; also, fifty others, on longer time. All acclimated and experienced cotton-plantation hands. I will also sell at any time during the year at private sale (for cash or on time) two hundred other valuable negroes (in lots to suit purchasers), and 10,000 acres of the very best and most advantageously situated 'cane brake' and 'black land,' &c.

At the meeting of the Council of Revision of the Loiret last week, to decide on the exemptions from military service, the number of payments made for substitutes was three hundred and twenty, representing an amount of not less than 900,000fr. This shows (says the *Constitutionnel*) that the new mode finds favour with the families of the above department.



INTERIOR OF THE MONASTERY OF ST. GEORGE.

THIS antiquarian nook of the Chersonese has been frequently described of late, in letters from the seat of war in the Crimea. Mr. Danby Seymour, in his deservedly popular work, pictures the famous Monastery as ensconced in a ledge of the precipice:—

From the plateau above, which has all the aridity and monotony of the Steppes, its ancient walls are not visible, and it is not till the traveller approaches the edge of the cliffs, and looks over, that he sees, instead of a frightful wave-beaten precipice, a most charming little village, nestled in the rocks at about fifty feet below him. There are a church, and houses, and terraces, cut one below the other, and ancient poplars, and gardens irrigated by a fine rivulet of water. The spot looks like a little oasis suspended, as if by enchantment, at several hundred feet above the sea, in the midst of an amphitheatre of black basaltic rocks, which rise majestically around, and form a striking contrast to the rich verdure in which the Monastery is hidden. A door and staircase, cut in the rock, form the only entrance to this great hermitage, which was no doubt first created by the ancient Troglodytes, or dwellers under ground, whose remains are so numerous in the Crimea, as all the rocks near the Monastery, which are composed of chalk, are pierced by ancient grottoes, which are now only used as cellars and poultry-yards, although they were inhabited by the monks so lately as the time of Pallas, in 1794. The Monastery consists of many large buildings, several of which are devoted to the reception of strangers. The church has unfortunately been rebuilt, and the ancient chapel that stood here has been totally destroyed. A rivulet runs in front of the houses, and trickles into a stone basin, shaded by poplars, while below it are terraced gardens and small vineyards.

This little nook generally enjoys a most unbroken quiet; but on the 23rd of April, St. George's Day—when crowds arrive, and the plateau above is covered with huts and tents—the Greeks, from all parts of Crimea, flock to the place, and the women especially frequent the fête, and embellish the scene by their picturesque dresses and traditional beauty. As in most religious festivals, the world always claims its part, and a kind of fair is held here in the early part of the day, at which much business is done. But all at once the scene changes—the hour of Divine service has arrived, the crowd flecks to the church, and, as soon as the benediction has been given, there is a rush to the basin containing the water, which is supposed at this season to be a remedy against all kinds of diseases.

AN HERETICAL TOAST.—At a great banquet given lately at Santiago, some young people drank to the health of the first Protestant who came into Spain to celebrate the functions of his religion. The local authorities attached no importance to the fact, but the Minister of Justice has sent orders to the effect that a prosecution be instituted against the authors of so scandalous a toast.

PICTURE OF THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA.

THIS memorable scene in the diplomatic history of Europe—at which were made arrangements which formed the last general settlement of the affairs of Europe—derives additional interest at the present moment from its being placed in parallel with the Treaty of Peace just signed at Paris. The Congress was held at Vienna in 1815, at the Foreign Office, in the same apartment wherein was held the Conference of last year, 1855. The former Congress, whereat was signed the Treaty between Austria, Spain, France, Great Britain, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, and Sweden, was painted by Isabey; and is valuable for the admirable portraits it contains of the great diplomatic celebrities of the period who attended the Congress. Upon the right, placed upon a pedestal, is a bust of the illustrious Austrian statesman, Prince Kaunitz.

The new number of the *Westminster Review* contains a lively and graphic

article on 'The Congress of Vienna,' from which we have taken the following notices of the leading diplomatists:—

Ever since the 16th the Plenipotentiaries of the four Powers—Castlereagh for England, Rasumofsky or Nesselrode for Russia, Hardenberg and William Humboldt (sometimes either, but oftentimes both, Hardenberg being deaf and requiring a scribe) for Prussia, and Metternich for Austria—have been holding preparatory meetings and conferences. Castlereagh, the English readers know. Voices from the Congress speak of his narrow horizon, and of his long-winded ignorance of Continental affairs, with which he had to deal; but give him credit for honest attention to the interests of his country, to the best of his not very shining ability. Count, soon to be Prince, Andreas Rasumofsky was nephew of the handsome clever Ukraine peasant-lad with whom the Czarina Elizabeth, of singular memory, shared her couch, if not her throne; and son of that peasant-lad's and Czarish partner's equally handsome and clever brother, who had wandered to Petersburg with his guitar, and risen to be Hetman, and President of the Academy of Sciences there.

Both the brothers, commencing in such a way, earned for themselves the character of estimable efficient noblemen: their Ukraine peasant-blood proving itself a naturally noble sort. Count Andreas, who has also had his adventures, has grown grey in diplomatic service. He has been many years ambassador at Vienna: has accompanied the Czar in the late campaign, and possesses his master's confidence—as far as anybody can be said to possess the confidence of so capricious and impressive a man as Alexander, who listened to many advisers.

Count Nesselrode, Rasumofsky's colleague and rival, was then not much above thirty, and had already advanced so far by dint of pliancy and dexterity. Stein speaks of him with a certain contempt, as "Little Nesselrode," and describes him as a good-tempered, rather feeble, parasitic man, devoid of character or originality—a clever, handy secretary, not a statesman. But he was of the yielding, elastic, nature of the willow, whose pliancy, in some situations, outdoes the strength of the unbending oak.

Hardenburg, the Prussian State Chancellor, was a high-bred, accomplished gentleman, who began his administrative career in Anspach-Baireuth, and rose to his present eminence by skilful service during Prussia's critical years; in reward for which he has just been created Prince. He also partakes somewhat of the nature of the willow; and, thanks to his bland, elastic character, has been able to maintain himself in a post which the sterner Stein could not hold. He has been, not unaptly, called the Mark Antony, and Stein the Cato of Prussian statesmen. He was of a sanguine, happy temperament, and always managed to reconcile the labours and duties of the minister with the graces and pleasures of the man of the world. He was distinguished by personal beauty as well as perfect manners; shone much in society, and was still a favourite with the ladies, though past sixty.

The Baron William von Humboldt, who was associated with Hardenberg, is known to the world as a man dis-



INTERIOR OF THE MONASTERY OF ST. GEORGE, BALAKLAVA.



THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA: SITTING OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE EIGHT POWERS WHO SIGNED THE TREATY OF PARIS, IN 1815.—FROM THE LARGE PAINTING BY ISABEY—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

tinguished in letters, as well as a statesman of high quality. His natural gifts had been developed by great culture and rare opportunities. He had travelled with Campe, studied aesthetics together with Schiller, and administered the State (as Minister of Public Instruction and Health) along with Stein; yet the refinement of his mind and universality of his culture were, perhaps, injurious to him as a man of action.

Metternich, in more senses than one, presided over the Congress. He was the minister of the host: conducted the festivities as well as the business, and made the one serve the other. Nature had endowed him with all gifts that ensure success in this world—graceful person, vigorous health, amiable disposition, high spirits, quickness, adroitness. His successes had begun early. At seventeen he officiated as master of the ceremonies at the coronation of the Emperor Leopold. He was twenty-two when old Kaunitz gave him his granddaughter and heiress in marriage, with the testimony of being "a good, amiable young man, of the most graceful verve, and a perfect cavalier." At thirty he negotiated the third coalition against France. At thirty-six he was Foreign Minister. He was created a Prince upon the battle-field of Leipzig, and is now President of the Congress; all, one may say, by virtue of a happy organisation, and the talents and accomplishments of the outward man.

MR. BRAHAM.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—As your journal is often referred to for the settlement of disputed questions, you perhaps will allow me to correct an error in the account of Braham's first appearance. It, of course, was not, as stated in your paper, on the 31st, but on the 21st, of April, 1787. Mrs. Siddons, on the same night was paying *Isabella* at the other house. They who love to connect eras together may, perhaps, find some gratification in hearing that Braham, who sang in public within the last four years, was the contemporary of Roger Kemble, the father of the Kembles (who was a tolerable actor, in spite of the sneer levelled at him for being an ex-hairdresser), of Macklin, and of Charles Smith. All these actors played subsequently to Braham's debut. The father of John Kemble made his first and only appearance in London more than a year after Braham. This was at the Haymarket, where he played the *Miller*, in the "Miller of Mansfield." Roger must have been in indifferent circumstances, if a story told by Geneste be true. "I spent the winter," he says, "of 1786-1787 in London. Mr. Bonney, of Percy-street, told me one evening that he had been at some banker's in the course of the day, and had heard the banker observe that he had a sum of money deposited in his hands for charitable purposes, and that Roger Kemble had applied to him for a part of it. His answer was, that he could not consider the father of Mrs. Siddons, who was making so much money, as a fit object of charity." Macklin did not leave the stage till May, 1789, about two years after Braham's first appearance. Macklin (according to Congreve's biography of the actor) made his debut at Lincoln's-inn-fields, under Rich, in 1725. So that a month ago there was living amongst us a performer once contemporary with a player who could recollect Betterton, and had seen many an old comedian who had played under James II. and William III. "Gentleman Smith," the original *Glenalvon* and *Charles Surface*, quitted the stage a year after Braham came upon it. More than a century has elapsed since this contemporary of Braham first tempted fortune before the lights as *Theodosius*. Let us add one more circumstance connected with the year of Braham's debut. In that year the newspapers announced the second edition of *Scottish Songs* by Robert Burns, an *Ayrshire Ploughman*. Intimation is added to the ignorant, that, if they are curious to know who this *Ayrshire Ploughman* is, they will find an account of him in "The Lounger," No. 3. The ploughman is now more famous than the players.—J. DORAN.

THE POSITION OF FRANCE AT THE VIENNA CONGRESS.—France occupied at the opening of the Congress a peculiar, and, in her history, novel position. Her Plenipotentiaries were to arrive last, and to ratify without having been consulted. That was not the part French Ambassadors had been accustomed to play at congresses for these two centuries past. At the Congress, for instance, which in European importance bore most resemblance to the present one—that of Westphalia—the French Ambassador, Count d'Avaux, began his functions by demanding that the whole constabulary force of the free imperial city of Münster, officers and all, be preliminarily put in durance, till the proper punishment could be ascertained for their enormous crime of having exerted themselves to maintain the public peace against some roistering followers of the French Embassy. The same Count, in a despatch to his Court, makes sport of one of the Imperial Plenipotentiaries, the learned Dr. Valmar, who, writes the Count, "has no people at all about him to assist in a ceremony, whilst I, in my coach-and-six, attended by twelve pages and thirty-two cavaliers, let the world see of what sort the least of your Majesty's servants are." At the dozen congresses with which Louis XIV.'s ambitious designs has inflicted the world, the French had had the chief word to speak; and at Napoleon's congresses, his word, of course, was command. At Erfurt, but a few years since, Talleyrand dictated terms to Kings and Kaisers; and told the Weimarian Chancellor von Müller, who had been congratulating himself at the friendly reception which his Duke had experienced from the Emperor, "We say fine things to those we don't like; but to our friends we say, *Moque-vous de tout cela!*" And now the same Talleyrand, Prince of Benevento, ex-Vice-Grand-Elector, and ex-many other things, has to meet that Erfurt, "*parler des rois!*" under quite altered circumstances. One would like to have seen him "tell fine things" to the Duke of Weimar, and wonders whether he made any reflections on the occasion.

BOU-MAZA.—This famous Arab brave, who, next to Abd-el-Kader himself, was the greatest of the Algerian leaders, followed the fortunes of his chief, and after sharing his long captivity in France was liberated at the same time and on similar conditions by Louis Napoleon. Shortly after the breaking out of the present war, when Abd-el-Kader was disappointed in receiving the independent command of an Arab force, Bou-Maza procured the rank of Colonel in the Turkish army; but, Mussulman though he was, the rank was nearly all he did procure, for as in the case of nearly every other foreign officer forced upon them by Ambassadorial influence, the Turks virtually withheld from him all active military command, and weary the whole of his pay. When I last saw him in Constantinople, more than four months ago, he wore the flowing white silk *burnous*, and looked every inch the Arab Chief. At Batoum he was cased in the bastard frock-coat and tights which constitute the "reformed" Turkish dress, looking—in all but the large and bright black eye, which is as asterbly lustrous now as when he led restless charges against French dragons—as unlike the Bou-Maza of ten years ago as does any swedy cavass who swaggers, yet swaggers, in a Turkish Pacha's train. Besides these sartorial abominations, he wore a huge French Cuirassier's sword—evidently as great a misfit as was the tight narrow-chested coat, with its shabby worsted braiding, or the yet more unnatural pantalons. More than once during the evening did he crack a joke at the expense of his own appearance, without, however, seeming to feel greatly the sad downfall in fortune which it painfully indicated to others. Though he enjoys no regular French pension, the generosity of the Emperor supplies the funds necessary for his support, but for which the income from his colonelcy would hardly suffice to purchase barley for his Arab mare. Disgusted with the idleness to which the Turks have condemned him, he declared his intention of throwing up the unprofitable sinecure and rejoining Abd-el-Kader in his new retreat at Damascus, in which case our allies will lose perhaps the very finest leader of irregular cavalry whom their whole army could furnish for an Asiatic campaign.—*Letter from Erzerum, March 4.*

A NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.—It is said to be seriously in contemplation to negotiate a loan for no less a sum than one hundred millions of silver roubles. This will be the fourth since the declaration of hostilities. It will doubtless be effected with less difficulty than the previous ones, when peace has been secured, but it will aggravate still more the financial situation of the country, which is already seriously compromised; and the amount will be, it is feared, insufficient. The public debt before the commencement of the war amounted to 788,573,112 silver roubles (more than three milliards of francs), divided as follows:—Old foreign debt, 57,149,000 silver roubles; debts à terme, 114,997,055; rentes, 258,184,475; credit notes bearing interest, 51,000,000; paper money, 311,375,581. Since the war the debt has enormously increased, in consequence of three successive loans and several issues of Treasury bonds bearing interest. The expenses have exceeded all the calculations made by the Russian financiers. The State, therefore, in order to extricate itself from its embarrassments, must give unusual activity to production, and even double it, and simplify and extend the means of transport; for those now existing triple the original price of produce of every kind. This undertaking, however, is a most difficult one, and can only be effected by a complete regeneration of the present commercial system of the Russian empire.—*Letter from St. Petersburg, March 18.*

A FRENCH OPINION ON MR. CARLYLE.—After having traversed the History of the French Revolution in the Rabelais style, where the atrocities of the actors and the innocence of the victims are confounded and laughed at with a revolting buffoonery, Mr. Carlyle tried to impose on England a sort of Cromwell worship, to begin with. He has many admirers and many copyists. A number of periodicals have become the echo of his doctrine. This adoration of Force—this kissing of the iron hand—is nothing but a consequence—apparently paradoxical, but profoundly logical—of the spirit of democracy cleverly grafted on the interests and passions of the moment. It may help to explain certain recent phenomena of popular admiration in England which have astonished the world. Some languishing poets make themselves the organs and purifiers of this admiration and of this sickly envy, in some elegies which contrast strangely with the national pride which inflamed the poets and prose-writers of the last century in all ranks of society. We remember that in the reign of Louis XIV. the French refugees in England published a protestation, entitled "The Signs of Enslaved France for Liberty." In our time, if the verses and prose of those panygerists of revolutionary reform were deserving of so great an honour, we might form a miscellany of complaints, entitled "The Signs of Free England for Slavery!"—*M. de Montalembert.*

THE PEACE.

HARK! through the deep'n'g silence
Of the Sabbath night!
Hark! to the solemn echo,
Or, did we hear aright?
Again, again it thunders—
It is the cannon's roar,
That tells a list'n'g people
Their work of death is o'er!
Now raise your hearts to Him above,
"Who biddeth wars to cease!"
To the Lord God of Battles,
Who sends the nations Peace!

Peace! let the glorious message speed
Upon the lightning streams
Till on the throne and in the cell
The joyful knowledge beams!
For carnage and destruction,
Twin demons, now are chain'd.
And war's red furious steeds, that long
Trampled the earth—are rein'd,
So raise your hearts to Him above,
"Who biddeth wars to cease,"
To the Lord God of Battles,
Who sends the nations Peace!

And ye, O unknown martyrs,
Who sigh "too late, too late!"
As ye hear the cannon thunder
Their tidings to the state—
Your silent tears and agony,
Your lov'd ones' life-blood shed,
Mingling in solemn sacrifice
The living and the dead,
Have been your portion of the price
For Europe's glad release—
The mighty price Old England pays
For the blest boon of Peace!

Oh! look throughout the length and breadth
Of lands to Britain given,
And search a fitting tribute
To offer before Heaven.
Look for the fatherless and poor,
And for the mourner seek,
And let reflected mercies cheer
The widow'd and the weak.
Thus raise your hearts to Him above,
"Who biddeth wars to cease,"
To the Lord God of Battles,
Who sends the nations Peace!

See! We have work before us—
Work meet for men who rose
Like giants to defend the right,
And grapple with their foes;
We've ignorance to vanquish,
And darkness to dispel,
And many a human dwelling
Too like an earthly hell.
Up! let us know no respite,
Still working hand in hand,
To cleanse these mighty evils
That stain our native land.

We've borne a solemn chastisement,
See that it works aright!
And opens ev'ry heart and mind
To Truth's most holy light!
We've learn'd the impotence of man
To guard 'gainst future ill,
We've seen the fruitless vanity
Of pride and human skill,
So let us raise our hearts to Him
"Who biddeth wars to cease,"
And thank the Lord of Hosts for this
His last best gift of Peace!

A. F.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT.—The report of the Postmaster-General for 1855, just issued, states, with regard to the inland service, that 525 post-offices have been added, making the total present number 10,495. The experiment of pillar letter-boxes has fully succeeded, and the number, especially in London, is to be largely increased. Measures are in progress for accelerating the first delivery in the metropolis, so that it may be effected by nine a.m., and also for securing a more speedy transmission of letters between one part of London and another. For this latter object ten centres of distribution are to be established, and hourly deliveries will then take place. Both plans involve such important alterations as to require great care; but the difficulties will be lessened by the public adding to the direction of their letters the initials of the district for which they are intended, in accordance with instructions which will be given. A substitution of new names for streets, when there are two or more of the same name in a district, will, if it be adopted in accordance with a previous recommendation, likewise prove advantageous. During the past year a vast number of accelerations have been effected on the most important lines. The total number of letters was 456,000,000, showing a proportion of nineteen letters for every individual in England, seven in Ireland, and fifteen in Scotland. The number of newspapers posted has undergone a diminution of about one-fourth since the abolition of the stamp, and the loss of revenue from that source has been about one-half. The transmission of book-packets has experienced during 1855 the enormous increase of 273 per cent., and the number is now 1,400,000 per annum.

NEW WARMING APPARATUS IN FARNBOROUGH CHURCH, KENT.—A constant circulation of the air of a building through the air-drain, and its concentration on the stove, appears to be the principle of this apparatus. The warm air ascends, expands into every part, and gradually descends, as it cools by contact with the walls and windows, flowing down the air-drain, to be again warmed, and thrown up into the church. It is not necessary to conduct it to the extremities of a building, because the coldest air is always flowing down the drain; and, as the warm air must necessarily take its place, the warmth is diffused. The construction of the stove is simple and inexpensive; it consists of an iron cylinder, cast in two pieces, five feet long by two feet six inches in diameter, the fire-bars are placed a little below its centre, and are lined with Welsh lump fire-bricks. By means of a small screw-valve in the lower door the draught is regulated, and no damper is used in the chimney. The stove is fixed under the aisle of the church. It has three grates: the first serving the double purpose of a trap-door to the stove-hole, and an air-draft to the fire; the second is placed over the stove, and admits the warm air to the church; and the third, at a distance of twenty-four feet, is put over the air-drain to receive the cold air which is conducted down the drain. The fire is lighted on Saturday, and keeps in without an attendant during the night, and it is never touched during the service. The apparatus was put into the church when it was restored last autumn, and has been found to answer remarkably well. In the construction of the drain care should be taken that the air-drain has no sharp angles; it should be large—two feet six inches by two feet six inches at the least. Sufficient air only is admitted by the screw-valve for combustion, very little heat escapes into the chimney, and the stove is never hot enough to burn the air.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty will hold her first drawingroom this season on Thursday, the 10th of April; and her fourth levee on Wednesday, April 16th, at St. James's Palace.

There is no day yet fixed for the Empress to leave her room. As the baptism of the Prince Imperial must, according to the programme published, follow the above event, it is calculated that it will take place the second fortnight in April.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to preside at the 67th anniversary dinner of the Royal Literary Fund, which is fixed to take place at Freemasons' Hall on the 7th of May.

The *Frankfort Journal* announces that the Empress of Russia, widow of the late Czar Nicholas, is about to visit her daughter, the Grand Duchess Olga, at Stuttgart.

The Berlin papers begin to talk openly of the marriage of Prince Frederick William with the Princess Royal of England. The Prince will visit England at the conclusion of the spring reviews, and it is expected that he will return an accepted suitor.

The telegraphic despatch sent by the Pope in reply to that of the Emperor Napoleon, announcing the birth of the Imperial Prince, and asking for the apostolic benediction, was, according to one of the French religious journals, in the following terms—"I bless the Emperor, the Empress, the Imperial infant, and France!"

Lord Canning reached Calcutta on the 29th of February, and was sworn in Governor-General on March 1. Lord Dalhousie was to leave Calcutta for Suva on the 6th ult.

On the occasion of the signature of the Treaty of Peace the King of Prussia conferred on M. de Manteuffel the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Black Eagle.

An order of the day from the Minister of War, published in the *Invalides*, makes known to the troops that the Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovitch, second son of the Emperor, has been inscribed on the muster rolls of the cavalry of the Imperial Guard.

Within the last two months no less than four earldoms have been presented with heirs apparent; namely, the Earls of Airlie, Portsmouth, Lichtfield, and Munster.

The biography of the Emperor Napoleon III. has been published in the Russian language at St. Petersburg, and very extensively sold.

From Russia we learn that the Grand Dukes Constantine and Nicholas, and General Todleben, accompany the Emperor Alexander on his journey to Finland.

Accounts have been received of the death of Sir Charles Hotham, Governor of Victoria.

Count Morny is spoken of as likely to be appointed Minister of France at the Court of St. Petersburg.

The marriage of Count Vladimir de Daun, chamberlain of the Emperor of Austria, Colonel in the Austrian service, with the Countess Machel de Laubespain, of Paris, was celebrated on the 27th ult. at Brussels.

It was rumoured that Sir Henry Barkly would shortly leave Jamaica for England.

In the Upper Chamber at Berlin, on the 28th ult., the President read a letter from the Commander-General of the third corps of the army, demanding authority to prosecute M. von Kuchow-Plessow, by whom M. von Hinkeldey was killed, and M. von Marwitz, his second.

The fine bust in porcelain of the French Emperor, from the chisel of M. Aug. Barre, has been placed in the Salon de l'Empereur, at the Palace of the Senate.

Her Majesty has given an order to Mr. F. Grey, of Cork-street, to supply an artificial limb to Isaac Church, of the Grenadier Guard, who lost an arm at Inkerman, and has appointed him a porter at Windsor Castle.

The *Mémorial des Pyrénées* announces that General Bosquet transmitted by telegraph the intelligence of his elevation to his mother in the following terms:—"Marshal Bosquet to his mother: Pray for the Emperor."

A hundred members of the Catholic Young Men's Society of Dublin have addressed a respectful remonstrance or protest to Archbishop Cullen, against the act of excluding, by his directions, the three Roman Catholic papers, the *Tablet*, *Nation*, and *Weekly Telegraph*, from the reading-room of their society.

Ali Pacha dined with Count Orloff on the 27th ult. In the course of the day the Russian Aides-de-camp hunted in the forest of St. Germain, in company with some superior officers of the Imperial Guard.

A grand fête in honour of the conclusion of peace is to be celebrated at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next.

Hayti is said to be in a convulsed state, owing to the repeated defeats sustained by the Emperor Soulouque.

A proposal is before the public in Manchester for a grand exhibition of pictures, sculptures, glass, china, engravings, and other works of art. The subject was broached a few days ago at a meeting of the School of Art, by Mr. E. Potter.

The old story of an approaching union between the Greek and Roman Catholic Churches is revived. An ecclesiastic has published a work on the subject at the expense of the Pope, and, with the patronage of his Holiness, has left Rome on a mission to the authorities elsewhere.

The two statues of Tragedy and Comedy, by Flaxman, and the two fine bas-reliefs by the same artist, on the Bow-street front of Covent-garden Theatre, have happily escaped uninjured from the fire.

On the 30th of January the Chilean war-steamer *Cazador* left Talcahuano, having on board 355 persons (86 of whom were soldiers, 4 officers, and the remainder women, children, and the crew). Shortly after leaving she ran upon a rock and sank. Only 43 persons were saved.

A notice was posted at the Paris Bourse on Monday, stating that the Council of the Bank of France have lowered the rate of discount from 6 to 5 per cent.

Sir Colin Campbell denies the truth of an anecdote circulated in a newspaper paragraph some time ago, to the effect that Sir Colin had been sent for to the Palace, had led in the Princess Royal to dinner, and had been seated by the Queen. This anecdote, and remarks depreciatory of the Guards (attributed to Sir Colin), are both declared to be utterly fictitious.

A Swedish lady, described as possessing a beautiful voice, has been singing in the north of Germany, and is shortly to appear at the Opera, in Berlin, as the *Queen of Night* in the "*Zauberflöte*."

Government has accorded a charter to the Ottoman Bank. This step is adopted after communication with the Ottoman Government, which grants to the bank the firm requisite for the establishment of the public undertakings of this nature.

The Castle of Arenenberg, on the lower part of the Lake of Constance, which formerly was the residence of Queen Hortense and her son, now Emperor of the French, fired a salute of several guns on the occasion of the birth of the Prince Imperial.

The four colossal allegorical statues intended for the middle roof of the new Museum at Berlin, and representing Art, Peace, Fortune, and Prussia, have just been cast in zinc at different Berlin foundries. They will be covered with a sandstone-coloured paint, and then be erected at once. The reliefs for the frontispiece, modelled by Professor Kias, will soon be finished.

A Baltimore schooner has been seized at New York, under orders of the United States' district attorney, charged with being fitted out as a slaver.

There is some talk of forming in the Crystal Palace a collection of pictures illustrative of English art.

The *Genoa Gazette* quotes a letter from Sarzana, stating that on the night of the 17th ult. two men who had disguised themselves with masks, assaulted a broker of Carrara, and stoned him to death. It is believed they mistook him for a notorious informer.

A petition has been forwarded to the Board of Trade from the warehousemen at Deal and Ramsgate, complaining that they are not sufficiently paid for the risk and expense they incur in saving the cargoes of vessels wrecked on that dangerous coast.

The *Czas*, the Austrian journal of Cracow, says:—"In the night of the 26th ult. the recruitment of 30,000 men, from the age of nineteen to thirty-five, took place in Poland."

By order of the Prefect of the Seine, daguerrotype artistes and others are forbidden to take drawings of mausoleums which are the private property of families without an authorisation from the administration.

M. d'Erbazy, the Austrian Minister, is dangerously ill of an inflammation of the lungs.

The cultivation of the mulberry-tree, the breeding of silkworms, and the production of silk, are making great progress just now in Poland.

The Russian Government proposes to found a new University for Southern Russia at Nischni. An observatory—arranged for meteorological as well as astronomical records—is also to be erected in the city, at the instance of the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg.

On the 16th ult. Colonel Turr reached Corfu. He was accompanied by an Austrian guard, who delivered him into the hands of the British authorities. Soon after his arrival the Colonel left for Constantinople.

Memorabilia,

LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

"A little chink may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

THE SANCTUARY KNOCKER, DURHAM CATHEDRAL.



WE are indebted for a sketch of the very interesting relic here given to the accomplished pencil of our correspondent Cuthbert Bede. The "Sanctuary Knocker" is affixed to the exterior of the north door of the nave of Durham Cathedral. Its former use is best described in Sanderson's "Antiquities of Durham Abbey" (Ed., 1767; pp. 43, 44):—"Near to the said altar" (of our Lady of Pity), "on the south side, adjoining the Galley Door, was a grate, whereon the countrymen lay, when they fled thither for refuge. In ancient time, before the house was suppressed, the Abbey Church, the churchyard, and all the circuit thereof, was a sanctuary for all manner of men that committed any great offence: as killing of a man in his own defence, or any prisoners who had broken out of prison and fled to the church door, knocking to have it opened; also certain men lay in two chambers over the north door for that purpose, that when any such offenders came and knocked they instantly let them in at any hour of the night; and run quickly to the Galley Bell, and toll'd it, that whomsoever heard it might know that some had taken sanctuary. When the Prior had notice thereof, he sent orders to keep themselves within the Sanctuary—that is, within the church and churchyard; and that everyone should have a gown of black cloth, with a yellow cross, called St. Cuthbert's Cross, on the left shoulder, that everyone might see the privilege granted to St. Cuthbert's Shrine for offenders to fly unto, for succour and safeguard of their lives, until they could obtain their Prince's pardon: and that they should lie within the church or Sanctuary on a grate, made only for that purpose adjoining to the Galley South Door. They had likewise meat, drink, bedding, and other necessities, at the cost of the house, for thirty-seven days, being only such as were necessary for such offenders, until the Prior and Convent could get them conveyed out of the Diocese; this privilege was confirmed not only by King Guthred, but by King Alured likewise." The two chambers over the door have been removed. A list of those who claimed sanctuary has been published by the Surtees Society: the last date is Sept. 10th, 1524.

The grotesque and huge knocker is a very fine specimen of Norman metal-work, and is in excellent preservation. As the head is hollow, and as there are apertures at the eyes and mouth, Cuthbert Bede suggests that, when night drew on, a light was probably placed within the head to guide the fugitive to his haven of refuge. Its effect must have been rather terrific than attractive to any one else than the claimer of sanctuary. It is now no longer useful; whether or not it is ornamental is another question; but it is compassionately allowed to grin out its harmless existence in the place to which it once attracted such questionable company.

NOTES.

ORIGIN OF COMMON PHRASES.—Several of Scruator's phrases are of too recent an origin, and somewhat base coinage, to require notice. The "cut up" of the shambles, the "high ropes" of the acrobat, the "cold shoulder" given to a guest expectant of a feast; the "wheelbarrow," the only vehicle for the late diner-out, when the last cab is gone home; the "tongs," to intensify the noise of the blacksmith's hammer; the "bucket" overturned, and cheap "five-penny" worth fiery of the haberdasher, very probably suggested the "slang." Many, however, are of somewhat proverbial form and remote date. "Helter-skelter" (Grose's hang-order!) is used by Shakespeare; "sleeveless," by Bishop Hall and Milton; "to boot" (from *bote*, profit) by Shakespeare and Herbert; "to cotton," by Swift; "half-seas over," by Dryden; "i'th' ends," by Beaumont and Fletcher; the careful housewife's "save the bacon" is employed by Prior. "To put a spoke in a wheel" made it run heavier; "lackadaisy" is the corruption of lackaday (ill tide it); "to haul over the coals" reminds one of the ancient ordeal of the red-hot ploughshare; "right as a trivet" comes probably from the motto of the three-legged stool of Man—"Quoniamque jeceris stabit." "Dog-cheap" was contemptuous, as in dog-Latin and dog-rose, doggerel, or a dog-Jew of Shakespeare. "To curry favour" (or *faul*, a chestnut horse) came from the stable to the pen of Hooker; while to "eat unble pie" was the fate of the menials, who fed on the refuse, when those "above the salt" feasted on the haunch of venison.—MACKENZIE WILCOTT, M.A.

A BEAUTIFUL INSCRIPTION.—The following very elegant inscription was copied from a book of travels in Italy, published many years ago:—

Quintus Lucius Bara Soranus
Masurum amicus,
Domitillam.
Puellam formâ et virtute præstantem, quam adamaverat
Doris parentibus ei denegantibus:
In hac villa, quam Leutius redit avert,
Luctu, inaccessa, et dolore, cunctus,
Stum interitum amorem continuo flevit.

Compare this ancient inscription with the much-admired modern one, by Shenstone:—

Ah Maria!
Puellarum elegantissima
Vale!
Hæu quanto minus est
Cum reliquis versari
Quam tui
Meminisse.

STOCKS, BARNACLES, AND BILBOES.—Barnacles or Bernicles, appear to be first mentioned by Joinville, the chronicler of St. Louis:—"And the Saracens, seeing that the king would not comply with their demands, threatened to put him in the *bernicles*, which is the most grievous torture they can put any one to. And these are two great beams of wood which are fastened to a head; and when they put any one in them, they lay him on his side between the two beams, and pass his legs across great pins; then shut down the piece of wood that is uppermost, and make a man sit down on the beams, from whence it comes that there remains not half a foot of bones in the body that are not crushed and broken; and still worse to make the matter, at the end of three days they put the legs, which are all swollen, back again into these bernicles, and break them anew, which is a most cruel thing, as well you may believe, and with bullock's sinews they tie down his head for fear he should move himself therefrom." The two holes for the feet must have suggested the name of "barnacles" for a pair of spectacles, used as a conventional jest-word by the London populace.—P. E. D.

*"Pittie is, perhaps, a corruption of the French *petit*."—*Raine's Brief Account of Durham Cathedral*, p. 21.

QUERIES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

I observe with great pleasure a portion of your very useful Journal devoted to subjects of archaeological and antiquarian interest, and shall be glad to be afforded space for the insertion of the following queries relative to some subjects connected with those branches of inquiry.

In my researches for materials for my forthcoming "History of Boston," in Lincolnshire, I have met frequently with the phrase "Culver Rent," implying an annual payment to some persons, generally (perhaps always) the lord of the manor. What does it mean? Again, in several of the villages near Boston there is a place called the "Shutes." I cannot find any definition of this word. Once more, in four parishes I have found an inclosure called "Cold Harbour." In this case my difficulty arises from the multiplicity of opinions respecting the meaning of this appellation—none of which, however, are satisfactory to me.

In the Vicarage-house at Boston is an oak panel (removed from the ancient Vicarage-house), which bears the following coat-of-arms:—A fesse charged with a fish and two annulets between three plates, each charged with a cross fitchée. This escutcheon is attached to a mitre, and a pastoral staff runs diagonally behind it. The tinctures cannot be traced. These arms undoubtedly belonged to some bishopric or mitred abbey; but as none of the former ever bore such arms, we must seek among the latter. Fuller gives the arms of all the mitred abbeys, except those of Bardney and Cirencestre. As these arms are not among those which are given, it is probable they were borne by one of the two which Fuller did not discover; and if so, most probably to Bardney, which was within a short distance of Boston, and held property in that town, as well as several valuable fisheries on the river Witham. The fish in the escutcheon very much resembles a *pike*, and Witham was proverbially famous for its fish of that description. Any information which your readers can favour me with respecting the arms formerly borne by Bardney Abbey, or relative to the origin of the terms mentioned in the preceding part of this communication, will much oblige and serve—FISHEY THOMPSON.

THE BOSTON ALCHEMIST.—I have before me a book entitled "Ripley Revived," London, 1678; and in an advertisement at the beginning mention is made of a reprint of Ripley's principal work, "The Compendium of Alchemy," which reprint, it is stated, was by Ralph Rabbards, and was published at London, in quarto, in 1591. Can any of your readers inform me where a copy of Rabbards's reprint can be seen? Ripley was a native of Boston; and, having been for some time at Bridlington monastery, as one of the Canons, he travelled into Italy, and devoted himself for many years to alchemy and the discovery of the philosopher's stone. On his return to England he betook himself to Boston, where he became a Carmelite anchorite, and where he wrote most of his works. He died and was buried there in 1490. Whatever we may think of alchemy at the present day, there is no doubt that at one time it occupied the attention of some of the greatest philosophers of the age in which it was so much studied, and among these the Boston Carmelite took a very high place. He was, unquestionably, far before the age in which he lived, and in the success which attended his chemical researches he had no equal in that day. In Thompson's "History of Boston" he is spoken of as "George Ripley," but in the work I have mentioned above he is called "Sir George Ripley," though when or how he obtained knighthood I know not. In Thompson's History Rabbards's reprint is mentioned as a book of "exceeding rare occurrence."—COSMOPOLITE.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.—We learn from Stow and other authorities that Smithfield was used as a place for the sale of horses and cattle even as early as 1150. Subsequently it was converted into a general market; but I cannot find when this took place. Can you or any of your readers inform me?—CIVIS, Bread-street.

MR. MACAULAY AND WILLIAM PENN.—Your correspondent Mr. Blandell has defended Mr. Macaulay with considerable success from the charges brought against him in the *Times* newspaper, with reference to Marshal Schomberg's and Judge Jeffreys's burial-places. Can he do nothing to exculpate the historian from the imputations, far more serious, of unfairness towards the memory of William Penn, which appear in the columns of the same journal, for Wednesday the 26th Feb. The reputation of Penn, like that of Macaulay, is surely public property.

A BEGGAR-BANGER.—When the town of Brackley was in a flourishing state, an officer was appointed and paid by the Corporation whose special duty it was to expel beggars from the town, and who was consequently and formally designated the "Beggars-banger." Can any of your readers tell me any other Corporation which had in its pay an officer so designated?—BLUNT.

"YOICKS, BOB!"—"LACE SONGS."—I shall esteem it a favour if Mr. Sternberg will kindly intimate where a copy of the ballad in which "Yoicks, Bob" is introduced can be seen; and also where I can see a collection of "Lace Songs." Should they not be published in a volume, and should Mr. Sternberg be willing to let me see any that he may possess, if he will kindly state as much in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS I will immediately forward my name and address to any place he may appoint.—JUVANS.

THE DOUBLE F.—A still more curious custom than that of using the *f* is observed by a few families in adding a capital letter to the termination of the name, generally the letter "H," written thus "Singleton H." Perhaps some of the intelligent contributors to "Memorabilia" may be able to account for this.—GEO. MATTHEWSON, Oxtou.

ANSWERS.

THE WORD "BULLY."—In answer to your correspondent who suggests "boullayes" as the origin of the English term "bully," and to your remark, "that it is an ingenious suggestion," asking also if there is any trace of the word in French usage, I beg to inform you that there existed formerly a French verb (now obsolete), "boullier," which signified "to cozen," also "to box." This was pronounced "booley," which is still the pronunciation of the word bully in England, although pronounced in Ireland, and I believe in Scotland, "bully," the *u* as in "gully." The French word was significative of the occupation of a "bully," which is that of "cozening," or cheating and defrauding, and even boxing, if his services are required. The term "bully" is at the present day known in France by a slang word, "maquereau." I think I am right in asserting that the English word "bully" was derived from the obsolete French verb "boullier," "to cozen," "to box." "Boullayes" was evidently derived from "bouley" (old French), a noun, signifying a birch-tree—"bouleau" (in modern French). The birch, we know, is still a terror to schoolboys. The "sergens-de-ville," or police of these days, were probably armed with a species of cat-o'-nine-tails, the handle of which was made of birch, and the thongs of white leather, with which instrument they kept back the crowd, as related by Victor Hugo in "Notre Dame de Paris." I shall be happy if my suggestion clears up the point in question.—H. BASCHET.

WIFE-SELLING.—The following passage from "How to Make Money," by Edwin T. Freedley, may throw some light on the subject of wife-selling. It was most likely from a misunderstanding of the laws affecting sales in markets that this kind of traffic has sometimes been carried on. Tradition says it has been done in this very town, and there are people now living who actually think it legal:—"A sale by a person who has no right to sell is not valid against the claim of the rightful owner, unless the goods are sold in what is legally termed 'market overt'; that is, at the market-place on a market-day. . . . A sale of stolen goods in market overt passes the property in them to the purchaser." And most likely this was considered to apply not only to stolen goods but to other articles not justly saleable.—WALTER SCARGILL, Colchester.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TOM D'URNEY'S SONGS.—The song of "To horse, brave boys of Newmarket," alluded to by Mr. Macaulay as an especial favourite of Charles II., will be found in the first volume of all the editions of "Wit and Mirth, or Pills to Purge Melancholy." The other song mentioned, "Phyllida, Phyllida," is not easy to identify, there are so many similar. Consult Chappell's excellent work now in course of publication, called "Popular Music of the Olden Time."

A LOVER OF OLD THEOLOGY.—See Cunningham's "Handbook of London," article "Gray's Inn Chapel."

W. COLLIFSON.—The phrase "as the crow flies" is derived from the habits of the crow, or rather raven. Any one living in the country must have observed that the homeward flight of rooks is peculiarly hasty, as if of a "straight cut across country," which the proverb in question is used to express.

YORKSHIREMAN.—Analysing ancient names is necessarily a department of the *ars conjecturalis*. We cannot, in many cases, venture upon more than a guess, and our proposals are usually such as a local name would pronounce far from satisfactory. With this proviso we should consider "Buckly" merely a mode of spelling hockley, the town either of actual rookery of a family so named.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.—"Rules of the Road."—This is merely a *custos*, which vary in different countries, but exists in all. It has the power of law, for a man would be held liable for the consequences of violating it.

330.—"The inhabitants of Norwich never summoned as Jurymen. Why?"—The burgesses of Norwich are entitled by prescription not to be put upon any assize, juries, or inquests whosoever with strangers, as, contrary to any question arising out of the town. This privilege was ascertained by inquiry in the reign of Edward II., was enrolled in the 16th of Elizabeth, and has been repeatedly confirmed. See Oremus's "Cheshire," vol. III, p. 21.

CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—1. A billiard of Edward VI. of an numismatic value. 2. A brass jeton of Queen Anne, quite valueless. 3. For prices of the three penny and four penny pieces of Charles II., James II., and William III., apply to Mr. Webster, the well-known numismatist, 17 Great Russell-street, Covent-garden.

Y. J.—A superstition derived from star-worship—an old wife's fancy.

J. G. ROBINSON.—The moral you describe was struck on the coronation of William and Mary. The reverse represents the mythological story of Perseus and Andromeda. The inscription is from "Ovid's Metamorphoses," lib. IV, 739.

CERIOUS.—Unless it can find some intelligence of interest, it is of no particular value.

CLAUDE L'AN.—The article in question would require much more space than we have to spare.

W. P. Somerton, may rely on our discretion, but we shall be glad to receive a few more of his unpublished autographs. Those in hand are scarcely of sufficient general interest for publication.

SPRING FASHIONS.

The season is now approaching when out-of-door costume must occupy a good deal of attention. Though the new bonnets do not present a sudden and marked alteration of style, there is some change of shape to be noticed. They sit close to the face, with an extremely full cap, and come a little more forward than they did last season; they have always a very deep and full curtain, with much of the trimming drooping behind. For the next few weeks straw bonnets are likely to be in favour; and these present such a variety of style and material that they are almost as coquettish as the more costly fabrics.

There is a charming bonnet of plain straw, ornamented with blue ribbon, black plush, and black lace: on one side, outside, is a bunch of blue flowers, and on each side a long streamer of ribbon. A row of narrow black velvet edges the bonnet, and black lace and blue flowers are intermingled with the cap.

There is another straw bonnet trimmed with rose-coloured velvet ribbon and a mixture of black and white lace for the curtain, with a bunch of miniature grapes inside.

A charming bonnet is composed of white blonde, with a slight intermixture of black lace, and a ribbon of emerald green run through the puffs; cap to correspond, with blonde and bunches of green leaves.

Another bonnet is formed of a mixture of pink silk, black lace, ribbon, and flowers; and one remarkable for its simple elegance is a white silk drawn bonnet, with trimming of white blonde and lilac ribbon, with a row of lilac flowers across the forehead, but only the simple blonde cap at the sides.

A novel effect is produced by spotted black lace being placed over white tulle, with crêpe lise for curtain, with an edging and trimming of blue and black.

Sometimes the curtain of the bonnet is composed of white tulle, with rows of narrow ribbon or black velvet upon it, and we may observe that flowers are more used than feathers at present, the latter being too heavy to harmonise well with the extreme lightness and delicacy of the fabrics chiefly employed.

Mantles are of a very becoming shape this season. They are generally of black, though silks of a quiet sombre shade are sometimes chosen for the purpose. Before describing the mantles, however, we must remark that a tight-fitting jacket with very deep basque is considered the most *comme-il-faut* costume. It is usually of rich black silk, profusely trimmed with black lace, fringe, and velvet.

For ladies who prefer a different mode we can recommend a black silk mantle of moderate size, with short ends before, and richly ornamented with brocaded braid and fringe.

Another mantle is richly embroidered, the embroidery being intermixed with jet beads. This mantle is edged with lace a quarter of a yard deep. Both on the jacket and the mantles there is a trimming across the shoulders.

A mantle of cinnamon-brown silk is somewhat of a scarf shape, with alternate rows of rich braid and plush trimming, and with fringe and tassels to correspond.

Another mantle is composed of violet-coloured silk, with a rich trimming of deep black lace and black velvet ribbon; a quilling of the latter goes down the front, while rows of the same are placed across, so as to produce somewhat of a military style; lace, velvet, and jet fringe forming a sort of epaulet across the shoulder.

For a more matronly wearer there is a large shawl-shaped mantle of black silk, richly trimmed with fringe, velvet, and jet beads.

The dresses are so beautiful this season that they may be justly considered chefs-d'œuvre of the manufacturers. Of course, we can only describe a few of those which present themselves.

There is a grey silk with three flounces, each flounce being edged with a *chine* pattern, resembling a willow branch, in black, white, and grey.

A dress of pale green silk has the flounces edged with a *chine* pattern of black and white; the body of the dress being trimmed with black velvet and black lace.

A lilac silk has three flounces, each flounce having a rich brocaded pattern of reversed Vandykes—that is to say, the points going upwards; the flounce is edged with fringe, and the body ornamented to correspond.

There is a violet silk, the flounces of which have a *chine* pattern, and three rows of fringe interwoven with the silk.

When plain silks are adopted they seem to have innumerable trimmings. Even moirés antiques are now made with flounces, the flounces having an appropriate pattern inwoven; generally this inweaving is a *chine* of a sombre colour, the trimming of the body being made to correspond.

Silks for dinner dress are more magnificent than ever. There is a pink moiré antique that seems to be strewn over with white feathers, so perfect is the perspective of the weaving. This silk is well adapted for a Court train, but if used for a private occasion should be richly trimmed with point lace.

There is an exquisite fabric of white silk with large bouquets of blue and white satin brocade.

An amber silk has flounces edged with an inweaving of white crêpe plush, nearly a quarter deep.

Perhaps, however, the newest and at the same time most costly and truly elegant dress is a blue silk with two flounces, each flounce being edged with a pattern in blue and white velvet, nearly half a yard deep. Though inwoven in the silk this velvet ornament has the appearance of being cut and painted in the most beautiful manner. The design is of tulips and roses intermingling their leaves and stems, and is so delicately shaded that it proves itself the work of a true artist.

Low bodies are made with points before and behind, and are profusely trimmed with lace, blonde, ribbon, and fringe.

High dresses are always of the jacket form, with a deep basque, and braces trimmed with fringe or velvet. The sleeves are usually composed of two or three falls.

We intend shortly to give a full description of ball dresses and coiffures; meanwhile we will just remark, that the latter are always full at the sides, and that they come a good deal on the top of the head. Ribbon and flowers at the back of the head are quite out of date.

We must find room for a few remarks on the novelties in lingerie which present themselves to our notice. The pointed collars have given place to quite a new style, namely, square worked collars, edged with Valenciennes lace. Sleeves are usually made to correspond, often with a gauntlet-like turned-up cuff of the same fabric as the collar. Some of the designs are of an arabesque pattern. A favourite style of sleeve has three puffs finished off with a frill to correspond with the collar; and sometimes the square collar is double, a smaller one surmounting the first.

There is a long or *jichu* sort of collar of heavy guipure, to be worn with puffed sleeves, edged with a guipure frill.

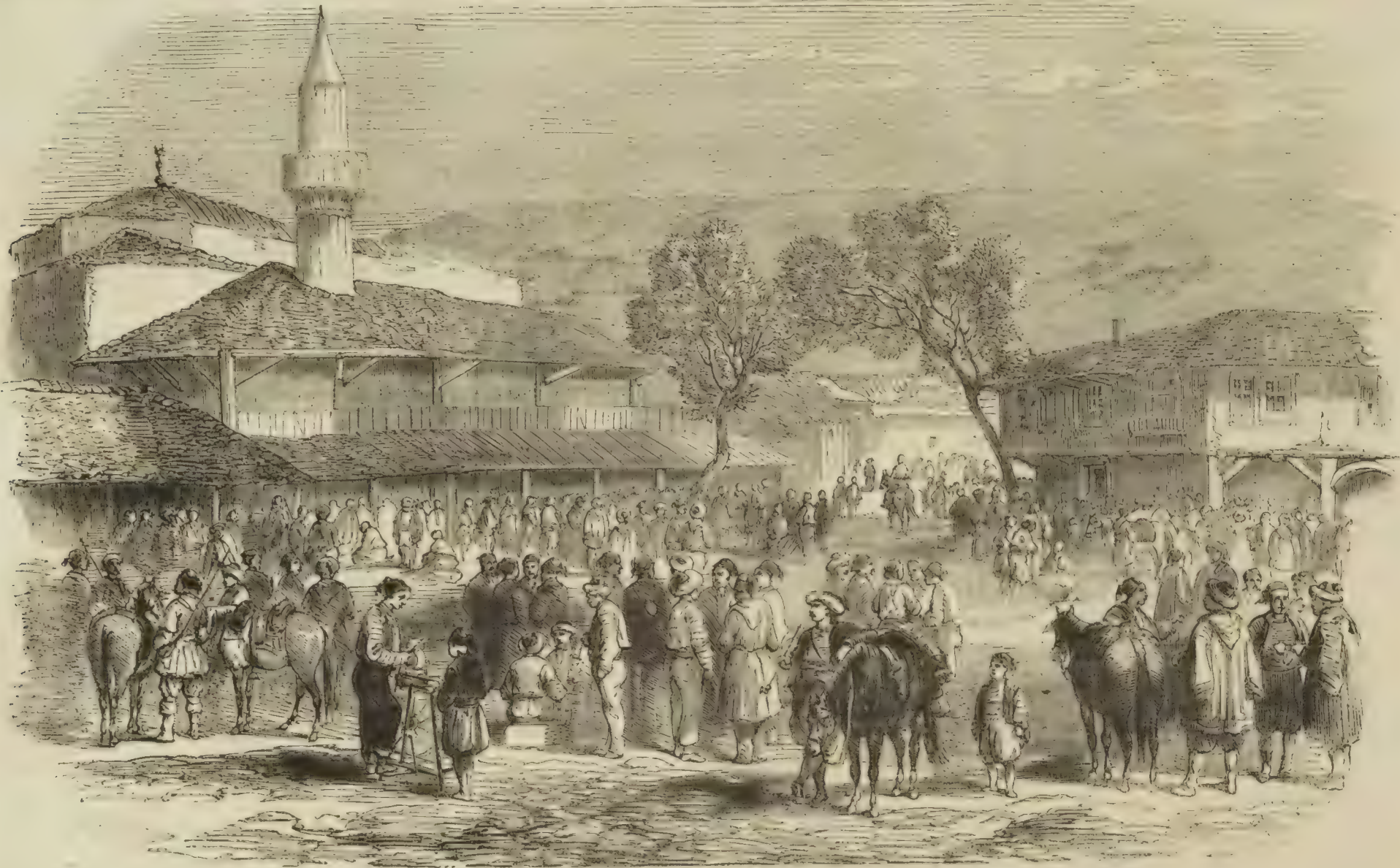
Ribbons of a bright colour, to harmonise with the dress, are made into bows at the wrist, and otherwise trim the sleeves, and a small bow is worn at the throat. The ends of the bow are usually finished with tassels, and sometimes black velvet is intermixed with the ribbons.

A stiff under sleeve, edged with a bright ribbon, and so arranged that the worked sleeve falls over it, produces a good effect; but much depends on the shape of the under sleeve.

[For our information on Dress and Fashion we are indebted to the courtesy of Madame EINSTEIN DELVY, 73, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square.]

RHUBARB gives us an illustration of the suitability of our climate, the excellence of our soil, and the skill of our cultivators, in utilising exotic plants. The medicinal value of this root was known to the Chinese at a very early period, and European nations received it from China through Turkish traders. The true Chinese rhubarb was first cultivated in this country in 1763. A gold medal was awarded to Sir W. Fordyce for raising from seed 300 plants of the *Rheum palmatum*. Since that period its cultivation has so increased in England that many thousands of tons of its succulent stalks are annually sold in our cities for the table, and for the manufacture of wine. Our horticulturists have again been successful in originating varieties of this root, especially adapted to the purposes to which it is now applied. In some sorts the stems are extremely large and juicy, others are valued for their precocity, and others for the opposite quality. In France rhubarb is scarcely known beyond botanic gardens. Some years ago Prince Metternich tasted rhubarb tart in England, and was so pleased with it that he took care to send some plants to his Austrian garden. On the occasion of a large party the following year the Prince ordered rhubarb to be served up dressed as it was in England. His cook knew nothing of English usage, and, selecting the large leaves, served them up as spinach. The guests made wry faces at this English dish, and well they might; and rhubarb was discarded from that time from the Prince's table.—From an able and intelligent lecture "On the Inherent Powers of Development in Plants," recently delivered by Mr. W. Ingram, at the Nottingham Mechanics' Institute.

"FOOLSCAP."—Everybody knows what "foolscap" paper is; but they would be puzzled to tell how it came to bear that singular cognomen. When Charles I. found his revenues short, he granted certain privileges, amounting to monopolies; and among these was the manufacture of paper, the exclusive right of which was sold to certain parties, who grew rich, and enriched the government at the expense of those who were obliged to use paper. At this time all English paper bore in water marks the Royal arms. The Parliament under Cromwell made jests of this law in every conceivable manner; and, among other indignities to the memory of Charles, it was ordered that the Royal arms be removed from the paper, and the fool's cap and bells be substituted. These were also removed when the Rump Parliament was prorogued; but paper of the size of the Parliament's journals still bears the name of "foolscap."—From "Notes and Queries."



A STREET AT SCHUMLA.

A STREET AT SCHUMLA.—A STREET AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

SCHUMLA has been a place of strategical importance ever since the Russians first made the provinces of the Lower Danube the aim of their conquest. Lying in a semicircle of hills, as in a horse-shoe, and populous at all times from the fertility of the land which surrounds it, Schumla gained additional size when it became a garrison town. The streets and market-places, which are not wider nor more fairly paved than those of other Turkish cities, are at all times filled with soldiers, and a busy mass devoted to the satisfying of soldiers' wants. But since the concentration of large forces in the centre of Bulgaria within the last two years Schumla is thronged. Streams of busy people of every denomination choke the narrow spaces between the low and rickety and ill-built houses; there is no passing through the bazaar, where Jews and Greeks lazily loiter before their wares, supremely careless whether they sell or not; and the market-place is a rendezvous for countless followers of every pursuit. In one corner a

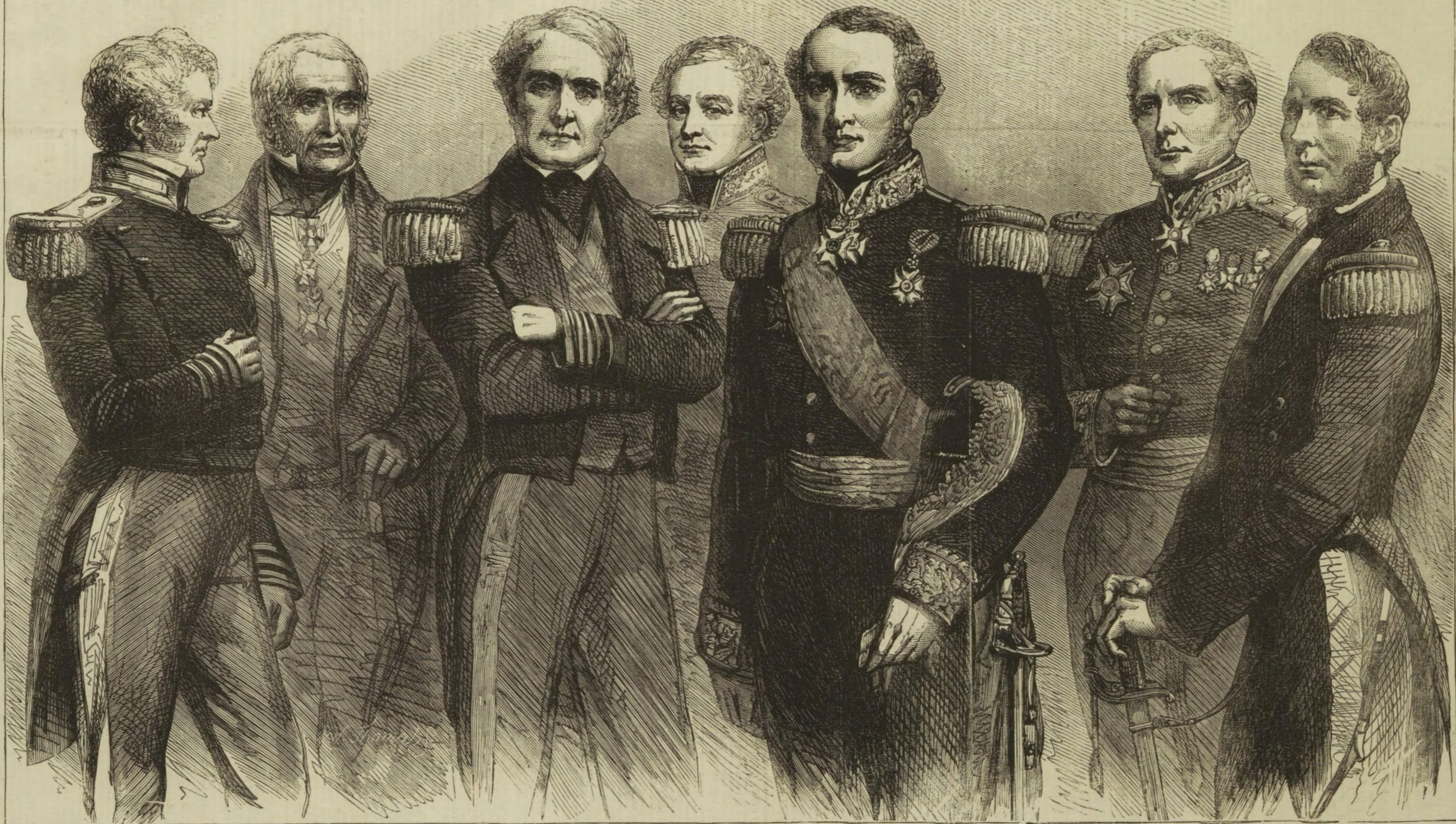
knife-grinder from the Turkish villages plies a wheel and sharpens everything from a yataghan to a toothpick; near him squats a vender of sweets and drinks—of these he has sorts as various as are his customers. The white *rahatkoun*, the grey mixture of oil and almonds; sweet-meats, green, red, or blue, attract as many as do the red, yellow, and green beverages which sparkle in his decanters. He is, accordingly, surrounded by a crowd which continually recruits itself, and eats, and drinks, and smokes around him as if life was to be a perpetual recreation. Another group surrounds a vender of tobacco; a third, the maker of pancakes; whilst, in their immediate vicinity, Bashibozouks and horse-dealers are wrangling over the price of a charger not taller than twelve hands. Albanians stand by, too poor to pay but afraid to rob, and eyeing good things wistfully; whilst they scratch their dirty heads or twist themselves in their frowsy garments. Under the wooden arcades a crowd is also passing and repassing. Jews selling calico; Turkish men and women buying it. Auctions of horses and pistols and pocket-handkerchiefs are held together—the prices called by hoarse but burly Turks, who deafen by their roar. Egyptians may be seen endeavouring to change a shilling bank-note, whilst their

cunning adversaries higgler for the discount. All the passions, good and bad, of a whole population—all the traffic of a city—all the gaming and swindling, as well as the honesty, if there be any, of Schumla, are condensed in its market-place, which is scarcely more, in truth, than a road of some breadth.

In a street at Constantinople the European element to a greater extent prevails. The dandy amateur with Jim Crow hat, surrounded by a veil, is arm-in-arm with the dandy British officer, who clangs his long spurs on the bad pavement, and takes sly peeps at pretty faces in high-up windows from under the shadow of his white-covered cap. He has learned not to be annoyed at the vicinity of dogs—in Turkey they are mangy brutes—and to treat with great composure the request of dirty little picturesque boys to do innumerable things which we cannot comprehend. The Turkish soldier in dishabille is not quite certain whether the English *askier* is likely to salute him, but he waits in readiness to give the never-failing salutation, if required. Under their awnings, meanwhile, sit some Turks—here, as in all places and situations—lazy, and squatting; whilst fat and contented old Mehmet has left his shop for the day, shouldered his umbrella, and mounted his ass, to join his family in the suburbs.



A STREET AT CONSTANTINOPLE.



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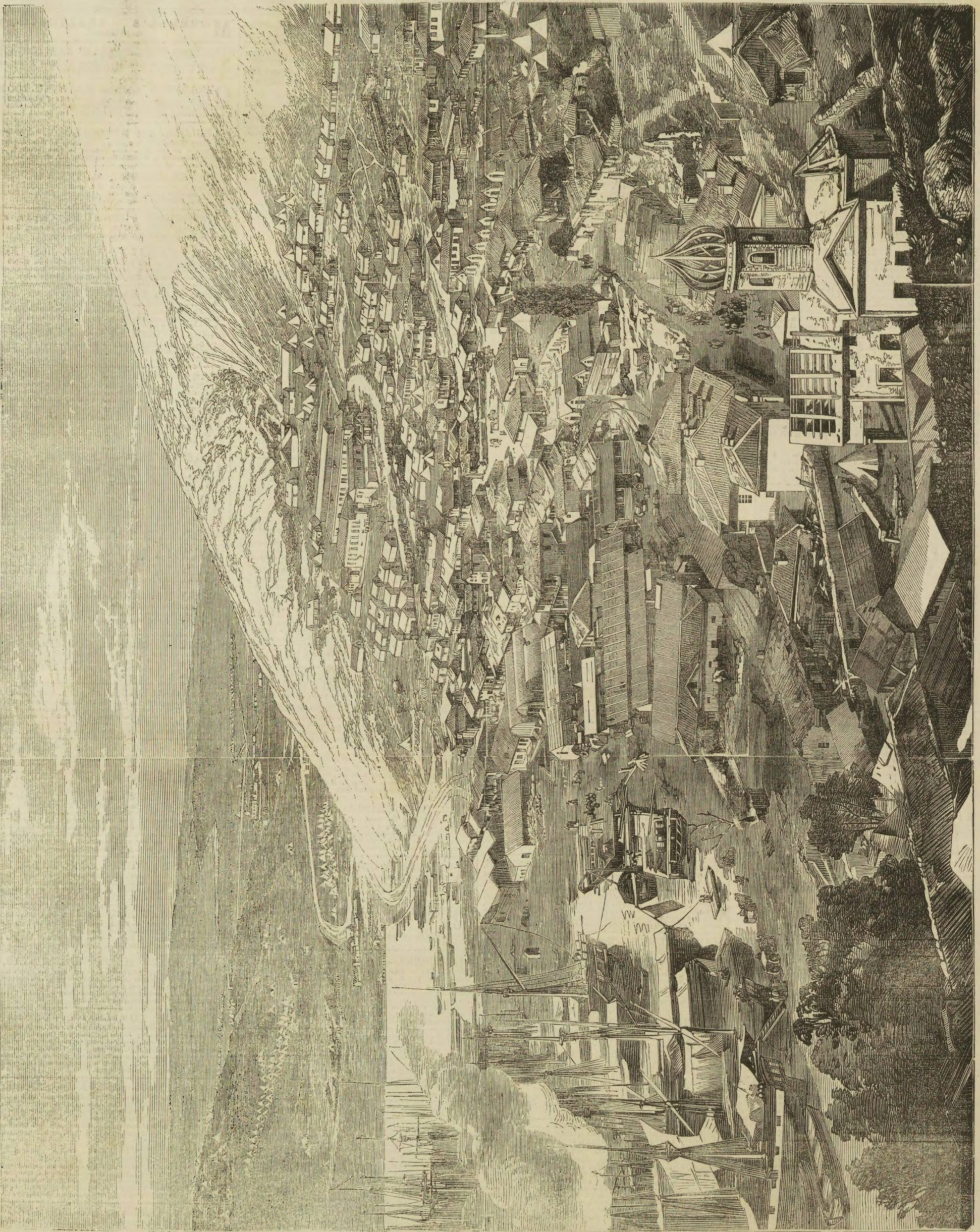
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BALACLAVA.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERTSON.

BALACLAVA.

This very interesting port is thus described by Mr. Dandy Seymour:—

Balaklava is now a busy scene: the little bay is crowded with transports; thousands of our countrymen disembark here to exercise their perilous profession, and as many re-embark, poor wounded soldiers, shattered in constitution, or with the loss of limbs, but henceforth immortal heroes, whose deeds will be the theme of the historian and the poet, whose future welfare will be a subject of anxious solicitude to their country, and who henceforth, however humble their rank, in whatever country they visit, will be marked men; marked for honour, and distinction, and respect, from all who admire chivalrous boldness, and that still rarer quality, calm unimpassioned endurance.

The town of Balaklava has probably received its modern name from the strong Greek castle of Pallakium, which stood here, although some suppose it to have been taken from "Bella clava," or "the beautiful port," a derivation which every traveller would willingly concede as probable. It is mentioned by one Italian traveller of the seventeenth century under the name of Baluchliacca, and at that time it was inhabited by Turks, Greeks, and Armenians. "Its unrivalled beauty and security," he says, "tempted him to stay there several days, and at that time its fine Genoese fortifications were entire." This old fortress, like all the strong places of the Genoese and Greeks in the peninsula, is erected on inaccessible rocks, close to the mouth of the harbour, on the adjoining eastern hill, and is fortified with high walls and towers.

When Clarke visited this magnificent fortress, the arms of Genoa were still upon the walls. "The mountain on the north-east side," he says, "is covered with its mouldering towers, and the rock itself has been excavated, so as to exhibit stately magazines and chambers, the sides of which were lined with coloured stucco. It is surprising," he continues, "that the inhabitants of Balaklava do not use these caves, for they are very habitable, and the stucco is still in the highest preservation. We entered one, which was a spacious oblong chamber lined throughout with stucco, and somewhat resembling the famous *piscina mirabile*, near the supposed villa of Lucullus at Baie. We could form no conjecture for what purpose this place was intended, except as a granary or store-room; it bore no marks of any aqueous deposit on its sides, and was at the same time dry, and in perfect preservation; it could not, therefore, have served as a reservoir for water." Might not some use be made of these dry caves for the stores of our army, if they be not situated at too high an elevation?

The port of Balaklava is frequented by fish of passage, especially by mackerel, by the *mugil cephalus*, in great numbers, and also by the red mullet, a most delicate fish, whether eaten in a fresh or pickled state, which is also caught in the lakes of the interior. The mackerels become as tender and savoury as herrings, after being kept twelve months in brine. The fishermen, when our army arrived at Balaklava, came with their nets to Lord Raglan, and offered, if they were allowed protection, to supply our army with fish, as the season was just commencing, but, from some mistake, their offer was neglected.

More germane to the above view are the following details from the recently-published work entitled "Inland Sebastopol":—

The entrance to Balaklava harbour is two cables length, or four hundred yards, broad. The harbour itself extends inland about a mile, and is, as I have already said, full of ships. On the right shore are tents and mud huts, and wooden huts, and a half-finished trumpety Greek church, with a green cupola; and the old tower, upon nearer inspection, expands into an extensive fortification, whose mouldering walls and ruined bastions cover the sides and base of the hill on which it stands. The good ship being now well secured, we hail a Maltese boatman—for these omnipresent Maltese have monopolised the trade of boatmen at Balaklava, as elsewhere—and we go ashore; that is to say, we are deposited at the "Ordnance Wharf," and find ourselves in front of a sentry, and surrounded by shot and cannon and cases of Enfield rifles, and broken anchors, and old chain cables, and knocking our shins imprudently against the sleepers and rails of a railway. We walk up into the town to make arrangements for the Camp to-morrow, and to make our observations as we pass. This railway seems to run about "promiscuously." It appears to have neither terminus nor direction, nor very much traffic, and looks like an unfinished tramway in any of the coa districts of England. There are the most high-sounding titles upon the most unimposing edifices. A mud hut, with sparse whitewash, is inscribed "Commandant in Chief." The "Ordnance" department is like a toll-collector's residence which Rebecca has visited. The "Post office" is a wooden shed of that exact order of architecture which we used (alas! how many, many years ago) to draw upon our slates at school. The bakery looks like a cellar in St. Giles's. The "Coldstream Guards," the "Artillery stores," the "Engineer's stores," and so of all the other departments of the army, are wooden huts, where all sorts of things are piled, and where, I suppose, somebody sometimes takes care of them. There is a long street in Balaklava, but the Police-office and the Post-office are the principal objects of interest in it. The Government offices and stores are by the water side.